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THE  
ACTS AND PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
GÉNÉRAL SYNOD

OF THE  
Reformed Protestant Dutch Church

3884

IN

NORTH AMERICA,

FROM

SEPTEMBER, 1841, TO JUNE, 1845, INCLUSIVE.

WITH

A COPIOUS INDEX.

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VOL. VI.

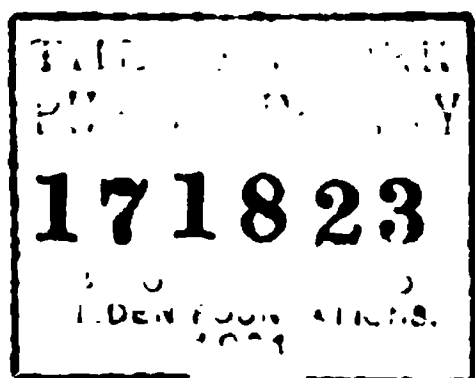
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New-York :

PRINTED FOR GENERAL SYNOD BY JOHN A. GRAY,

No. 111 Nassau Street.

1844.



 THE MINUTES OF THE FOLLOWING SESSIONS ARE EMBRA-  
CED IN THIS VOLUME, VIZ.:—

SEPTEMBER,	-	-	-	-	1841.
OCTOBER,	-	-	-	-	1841.
JUNE,	-	-	-	-	1842.
JUNE,	-	-	-	-	1843.
JUNE, -	-	-	-	-	1844.
JUNE,	-	-	-	-	1845.

**THE**  
**ACTS AND PROCEEDINGS**  
**OF THE**  
**GENERAL SYNOD**  
**OF THE**  
**Reformed Protestant Dutch Church**  
**IN**  
**NORTH AMERICA,**

**CONVENED IN EXTRA SESSION, AT NEW-YORK,  
ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1841.**

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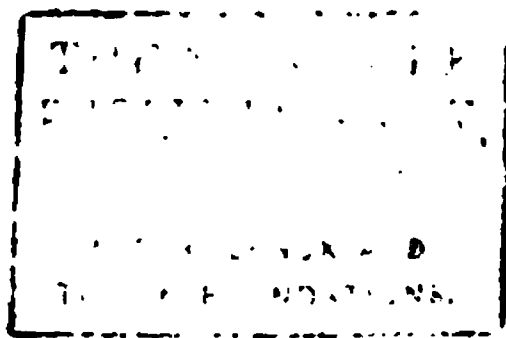
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**1841.**





## **ACTS AND PROCEEDINGS**

*Of the General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church in North America, convened in extra Session, in the city of New-York, on Wednesday the eighth day of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-one. The session continued from the eighth to the eleventh day of September, inclusive.*

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### **FORMATION OF SYNOD.**

#### **ARTICLE I.**

##### *Opening of Synod.*

The Synod was opened with prayer by the Rev. James Romeyn, the President.

#### **ARTICLE II.**

##### *Members Present.*

##### **FROM THE PARTICULAR SYNOD OF NEW-YORK.**

##### *1. From the Classis of New-York.*

Rev. Enock Van Aken, Thomas DeWitt, D. D., and John Knox, D. D.

Elders, William J. Roome, and Abraham Van Nest.

##### *2. From the South Classis of New-York:*

Rev. James M. Matthews, D. D., Isaac Ferris, D. D., and John E. Miller.

SEPTEMBER, 1841.

Elders, M. W. Woodward, Benjamin Wood, and William B. Crosby.

*3. From the Classis of New-Brunswick.*

Rev. William Reily, Aaron A. Marselus, and Talbot W. Chambers.

Elders, John H. Smock, Peter Wortman, and Peter Z. Elmen-dorf.

*4. From the Classis of Bergen.*

Rev. Benjamin C. Taylor, Ransford Wells, and John Garretson.

Elders, George Zabriskie, William Stephens, and George New-kirk.

*5. From the Classis of Paramus.*

Rev. Peter Allen, Wilhelmus Eltinge, D. D.,\* and James W. Stewart.

Elders, \* \* \* \*

*6. From the Classis of Long-Island.*

Rev. R. Ormiston Currie, Garrit I. Garretson, and William H. Campbell.

Elders, Evert Suydam, and Isaac Rapelye.

*7. From the Classis of Philadelphia.*

Rev. Peter Labagh.

Elder, Cornelius Kershow.

*8. From the Classis of Poughkeepsie.*

Rev. Alexander M. Mann, Herman Vedder, and John G. Johnson.

Elders, Isaac Roosevelt, and John W. Pitcher.

\* Obtained leave of absence on the third day of the session.

*9. From the Classis of Passaic.*

Rev. Garrit C. Schanck, Joseph Wilson, and Jeremiah S. Lord.  
Elder, Henry R. Van Ness.

FROM THE PARTICULAR SYNOD OF ALBANY.

*1. From the Classis of Albany.*

Rev. Isaac N. Wyckoff; D. D.,\* and Staats Van Santvoord.  
Elders, William W. Grosebeck, and John J. Demarest.

*2. From the Classis of Ulster:*

Rev. Cornelius L. Van Dyke, and John B. Alliger.  
Elder, Elijah Alliger.

*3. From the Classis of Rensselaer.*

Rev. Jasper Middlemas, and Richard Sluyter.  
Elders, Isaac Hutton, and Rynier Van Alstyne.

*4. From the Classis of Washington.*

Rev. John H. Pitcher, and John Birkby.  
Elders, P. V. N. Morris, and Abraham Knickerbacker.

*5. From the Classis of Montgomery.*

Rev. Jedediah L. Stark,\* and James Murphy.  
Elder, William Knox.

*6. From the Classis of Schoharie.*

Rev. Richard D. Van Kleeck.  
Elders,           \*           \*           \*           \*

\* Obtained leave of absence on the third day of the session.

**7. *From the Classis of Schenectady.***

Rev. Jacob Van Vechten, D. D., William Pitcher, and Andrew Yates, D. D.\*

Elders,       \*       \*       \*       \*

**8. *From the Classis of Cayuga.***

Rev.       \*       \*       \*       \*

Elders,    \*       \*       \*       \*

**9. *From the Classis of Orange.***

Rev. Ferdinand H. Vanderveer, and James B. Ten Eyck.  
Elder, Ephraim Smith.

**10. *From the Classis of Greene.***

Rev. James Romeyn, Thomas B. Gregory, and William Ca-  
hoone.†

Elder, Anthony Van Bergen.

**ARTICLE III.**

***Moderators.***

The Rev. James Romeyn, President.

The Rev. John Garretson, Adressor.

The Rev. Messrs. Cornelius L. Van Dyke, and Ransford Wells,  
Clerks, *pro tem*.

The Rev. B. C. Taylor acted as Stated Clerk during a part of the session of the Synod, in consequence of the temporary absence of the Stated Clerk of Synod, on account of severe illness of one of his family.

\* Obtained leave of absence on the third day of the session.

† Took his seat on the second day of the session.

## ACTS OF THE SYNOD.

The President laid before Synod a constitutional request which he had received, to call an extra meeting of the Synod, "for the purpose of receiving and acting upon a communication contemplated to be made by the Rev. Dr. Milledoler, touching the transactions of a late joint meeting of a special committee of the Synod and the Board of Superintendents, and for the transaction of any other business which in the judgment of the Synod, the interests of the church may require."

### ARTICLE III.

#### *Communications.*

A communication from Rev. Wilhelmus Eltinge, D. D. resigning his seat in the Board of Superintendents of the Theological Seminary, was read, and his resignation having been accepted, the committee on nominations were directed to report to Synod a double number of persons out of whom the Synod shall supply the vacancy.

Communications were received from the Consistory of the R. D. Church at Fort-Plain, and Rev. S. Van Vechten in relation to his case, and having been read, were referred to a special committee, consisting of Rev. P. Labagh, R. D. Van Kleeck, and the Elder George Zabriskie.

A communication from Barnabas V. Collins, requesting a dispensation for a portion of time, in Theological study, was referred to the Committee on the Professorate. Also one from Jacob West, requesting to be placed on the Van Benschoten or other funds of Synod.

A communication from Rev. J. Scudder, Foreign Missionary at Madras was read and referred to the committee on the professorate.

SEPTEMBER, 1841.

ARTICLE V.

*Correspondence.*

The Rev. John M. Krebs, D. D. appeared in Synod, and having produced credentials of his appointment, took his seat as a corresponding delegate from the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church.

ARTICLE IX.

*Church Government.*

The committee to whom were referred the memorial from the Church at Fort-Plain, and the communication from Rev. S. Van Vechten, reported, and their report was accepted adopted, and is as follows :

The committee to whom were referred the Memorial of the Consistory of the Church of Fort-Plain, and the communication of certain members of the congregation of Fort-Plain, and also the memorial of Rev. Samuel Van Vechten, beg leave respectfully to *Report*, That the Rev. Samuel Van Vechten's connection with the church of Bloomingburgh, in the Classis of Orange, has been dissolved ; that Mr. Van Vechten has received a call from the church of Fort-Plain, in the Classis of Montgomery, which call he thinks it his duty to accept ; that, on his applying to the Classis of Orange for his dismission, in order to connect himself with the Classis of Montgomery, the Classis of Orange furnished him with a paper in which they declare that they " cannot give him a dismission recommending him as worthy of confidence, but do in compliance with his request, dismiss him to unite himself with the Classis of Montgomery." It further appears that Mr. V. V. has by repeated decisions of General Synod, on appeals, been declared a minister in good standing, since which decisions it does not appear that any thing has occurred to affect that good standing.

The committee think that the Classis of Orange are mistaken in their views of duty in such a case, and therefore recommend the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That the Classis of Orange be directed without any undue delay, to give to Rev. Samuel Van Vechten a certificate of dismissal, in the usual and regular form, and that in the mean time Rev. Mr. V. Vechten be and hereby is recommended to the christian confidence and regards of the Classis of Montgomery.

Respectfully submitted,

PETER LABAGH, Chairman.

The Rev. Thomas De Witt, D. D., was, on his special request, excused from serving on the committee appointed at the last session of General Synod, to whom were referred the two reports on the subject of the manner of dealing with the baptized members of the church. The following persons were constituted said committee, Rev. Andrew Yates, D. D., Samuel A. Van Vranken, D. D., James Romeyn, William H. Campbell, and R. O. Currie.

## ARTICLE XIII.

### *Rutgers College.*

*Resolved*, That the Board of Direction of General Synod, be authorized to execute a lease to the Trustees of Rutgers College, of a lot, for the purpose of erecting thereon a building for the residence of a professor, on the grounds belonging to the General Synod, in the city of New-Brunswick, westerly of the College edifice, the precise site to be determined by a joint committee from the Board of Direction and of the Trustees ; the lot to be 75 by 150 feet ; for a term of twenty-one years ; subject thereafter to a renewal for such further term or terms as the Synod may direct ; at an annual rent of one peppercorn : and provided, that at the termination of the first, or of any subsequent term, the Synod may, at their option, terminate the said lease, by paying for the buildings that may be erected on said lots, at a just valuation, to be made by



three impartial persons, one to be chosen by the Board of Corporation, one by the Board of Trustees, and the third by the two former.

The Rev. Dr. Knox, in behalf of the Superintendents of Rutgers College, asked that the use of one of the wings of the College edifice be granted to the Trustees, for College purposes.

*Resolved*, That the subject be referred to the Committee on the Professorate.

#### ARTICLE XIV.

##### *Professorate.*

The Committee on Nominations having reported a double number of persons, the Synod proceeded to the election of a member of the Board of Superintendents, to supply the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Rev. W. Eltinge, D. D. ; on counting the ballots, it appeared that Rev. William R. Bogardus was elected.

The following communication was received from the Rev. Professor Milledoler.

*To the Rev. General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church.*

BRETHREN,

It is already known to your rev. body, that a memorial under date of February 17th, 1841, was, after various secret, yet formal meetings of the students of the Middle and Senior Classes of the Theological College at New-Brunswick, prepared and forwarded to the Secretary of the Board of Superintendents.

General Synod have also been informed that their Professor when apprized of this fact, made an immediate application to the Theological Faculty to investigate the subject, and that they declined all action upon it, excepting so far as to procure for his information certain papers from the students, shewing some of their proceedings in the case.

It has also been stated to this Synod, that the said memorial contained various unfounded allegations against the course of instruc-

tion pursued by the Professor of Didactic Theology, drawn up without giving him the least intimation of existing dissatisfaction, and that formal application was made for the convention of that Board.

It now appears proper to add, that said Board, having met accordingly, on the 11th of May, 1841, did receive the memorial, and did also act upon it, by appointing a Committee to wait upon the Professor, to inquire whether he had any observations to make, or light to throw upon it. Your Professor considered this as an invitation so to do, and under impression that it might contribute to a correct action of the Board, resolved to comply with it, which he did by meeting the Board, and reading a paper styled Remarks, &c., and which, with the memorial, was afterwards transmitted by said Board to this General Synod.

On the presentment of this document to Synod, it appears that the memorial was at least so far countenanced by Synod as to appoint, in consequence of it, a Special Committee to meet at New-Brunswick, previous to the annual meeting of the Board of Superintendents, to "inquire into the facts necessary to a competent understanding of the case."

This Committee, being pressed by the Professor on the above resolution of Synod, to enter into a thorough investigation of the controversy, declined so to do, by observing "that they were not appointed by Synod to enter into the merits of the case, but only to inquire into the mode of instruction, and to suggest such alterations as they might deem proper."

These alterations were introduced and adopted without consulting the Professor, either as to their utility, or the practicability of carrying them into effect, and were indeed entirely concealed from his knowledge, till the Board of Superintendents had met and sanctioned their proceedings.

Without questioning the abstract right of General Synod to prescribe to their Professor the course of instruction to be pursued in the Seminary, it is important to state—that as no dissatisfaction with the mode of didactic instruction had previously been expressed, either by General Synod itself, or by any of its former Boards of

Superintendents, it having been indeed formally approved, if not prescribed by said Synod ; nor the slightest intimation given, at any time, of desire that it should be changed, your Professor had no right to suppose that any such change was either desired or contemplated, and had consequently made no special provision for such change.

He has, however, never confined either himself or his students to their text book—has never required mere recitations from memory—and has certainly never attempted the absurdity of restricting thought.

He has written lectures, not a few, and has superadded copious notes on all branches of theological science, both explanatory and demonstrative, many of which are original, and others derived from the best standard authors, and would have been entirely disposed to have met the course of General Synod in the present instance, if it had been possible to have met the requirements of your Committee and Board of Superintendents ; but a bare glance at their plan, is sufficient to shew, that whilst some of its provisions are good, others are utterly impracticable, not only to your present Professor, but also to any successor, who (without previous preparation for the purpose,) may be appointed in his place.

To say nothing of a new class brought by it under his care, or of other heavy augmentation of his labors, it requires the Professor (if he has taken a right view of it,) to meet the Senior and Middle Classes apart—separates Didactic from Polemic Lectures ; requires the delivery of at least, four “original, full, connected, continuous, and well digested written lectures,” to the seniors, per week—directs him, instead of thrice a week, to meet said class daily—and all this to commence (as he apprehends,) and to be carried out from the opening of the theological year in the present month, and which, if thus carried out, will absorb so large a proportion of the working time of the students as to create new difficulties with them, as well as uneasiness and opposition in other departments of the Seminary. The impracticability of the plan is, indeed, so palpably obvious, that it has the appearance of being framed for the express purpose of coercing the Professor to retire.

Of those who are acquainted with his services in the institution for so many years, and will compare its situation when he entered it with what it now is, he would ask, without appealing to higher Christian principle—is this return either generous or just? Is it just?

Your Professor never intruded himself upon this office, but was publicly, solemnly, and honorably appointed thereunto by the Church, and at the earnest solicitation of his brethren left a situation, as to personal ease and temporal emolument, very superior to that he now occupies.

The call received from Synod he understood to be for life, excepting wilful neglect of duty, voluntary resignation, immorality, heresy, or such decline of mental or physical powers as to disable him from the performance of his duty.

Venturing upon the unquestionable faith of the Synod, and assuming the office under the broad cover of the Constitution of our Church, it never occurred to your Professor, even for a moment, that his continuance in it was to depend upon the changing feelings of a changeable body, quite as liable to wrong action under excitement, if not more so, than an individual, and still less that he was liable to be removed at any time, with, or without cause, prepared, or unprepared, by a sudden change in the mode of instruction, of such character as to render his position untenable, and that too under circumstances of unmerited obloquy, and without constitutional investigation.

The undersigned cannot believe that this General Synod will adopt the plan now offered, without such modification, at least, as will render it practicable. He awaits their decision on the subject, and which being had, he will be prepared to make an additional communication.

PHILIP MILLEDOLER.

The committee who were appointed to meet at New-Brunswick, in July last, on the subject of the Professorate (Vol. v. p. 522,523,) reported, and their report having been read, together with the accompanying documents, it was accepted, and is as follows:

The committee appointed by the General Synod in June last, in relation to certain difficulties in the Theological Seminary, respectfully report, that they met in fulfilment of the object of their appointment, on the 7th of July. The minutes of their proceedings are herewith reported. The plan of instruction drawn out by them was submitted to the Board of Superintendents, in joint meeting with your committee, when, after some alteration, it was adopted as the prescribed course of instruction in the Didactic Department of the Theological Seminary.

THOMAS DE WITT.

The following are the minutes of the committee.

*New-Brunswick, Wednesday, July 7th, 1841.*

The Committee appointed by the General Synod at their session in June last, relative to certain difficulties in the Theological Seminary, met, on previous notice given by the chairman, at New-Brunswick, in the College Library, on the 7th of July, 1841.

The following members of the Committee were present. Rev. Thomas M. Strong, Benjamin C. Taylor, John Garretson, and the Elders, William B. Crosby and Isaac Roosevelt.

In the absence of the Chairman of the Committee, the Rev. Thomas M. Strong was appointed Chairman, pro tem.

Rev. John Garretson was chosen Secretary.

The meeting was opened with prayer.

The Committee proceeded to deliberate upon the best mode of carrying out the resolution of General Synod, contained in their commission, relative to an inquiry into the facts necessary to a competent understanding of the existing mode of instruction in the Didactic Department of instruction in the Theological Seminary. Whereupon it was

*Resolved*, That the Committee first hear such statements from the Professor of Didactic Theology as he may deem proper to make, concerning his mode and plan of instruction; and that secondly, they hear the students in the case, by a committee of their number.

*Resolved*, That the Rev. Benjamin C. Taylor and William B. Crosby, be appointed to wait on the Professor and inform him that the Committee are ready to receive any communication from him.

The Professor accordingly appeared and gave a statement and specimen of his mode and course of instruction.

A deputation of the students also came before the Committee, and made statements on the mode of instruction pursued by the Didactic Professor.

Thursday morning, July 8th, the Committee met.

Having understood that two or three of the students of the Middle and Senior Classes had not signed the memorial, the Committee resolved, also, to hear their statement relative to the subject in hand. Two of them, by request, appeared and answered the inquiries of the Committee; the other one of this number was absent from town—was written to, but did not arrive.

At eleven o'clock A. M., Rev. Thomas De Witt, D. D., and Andrew Yates, D. D., arrived and took their seats in the Committee, when the Professor again appeared, by request, and made statements for the information of the members of the Committee, who were absent during the interview had yesterday with the Professor.

The Committee then proceeded to deliberate upon the subject of the course of instruction in the Didactic department in the light of facts, as above elicited, and the following resolutions were adopted.

1. *Resolved*, That Rev. John Garretson, Andrew Yates, D. D., and Thomas M. Strong, be a Committee to draught a course of action in the further prosecution of the business before the Committee.

2. *Resolved*, That Rev. Thomas De Witt, D. D., Benjamin C. Taylor, William B. Crosby, and Isaac Roosevelt, be a Committee to request the presence of the other Professors, in order to consult with them on the interests of the Theological Seminary, as connected with their departments.

The Committee appointed under the first resolution, reported, and their report was adopted, and is as follows :

The Committee, after a free and friendly conversation with the Professor of Didactic Theology, and after having improved an opportunity of reading and hearing read the lectures, notes and comments on the text book, as delivered to the students, unite in the opinion, that with all his ability, and with great industry and labor, the present venerable incumbent has filled his office.

*Whereas*, however, the plan of instruction pursued by the Professor consists mainly in a catechetical recitation, by the students, of the arrangement, arguments and phraseology of Marks Medulla, and is in consequence not well calculated to elicit the minds and vigorous efforts of the young men, but rather to repress and cramp their energies, and deprive the noblest of all sciences of that absorbing interest which should ever attend its pursuit; which, in the judgment of the Committee, is an improper use of the text book; and *whereas*, the course does not embrace a connected system of original lectures upon the great topics of Didactic and Polemic Theology, but the recitations from the text book are accompanied simply with isolated notes and remarks drawn chiefly from other sources, given by way of collateral information or illustration, and there is a want of instruction upon the great errors in divinity, broached and defended in modern days; and *whereas*, in the judgment of the Committee, such a mode of instruction fails to secure the great object in the establishment of the Didactic Professorship, viz:—to qualify young men for the important duty of teaching and defending the great truths of the gospel, therefore,

*Resolved*, That in the judgment of this Committee, an entire and radical change in the mode and plan of instruction in this department, is essentially necessary.

*Resolved*, That if the Board of Superintendents shall concur herein, the following shall be the plan and course of instruction by the Professor of Didactic and Polemic Theology.

1. While the present text book shall be put into the hands of the students, and they shall be required to study the same, it shall be chiefly used as a guide to the Professor in the course of instruction which he shall give, and the students shall not be required either

to commit to memory or to recite the same in the words of the author in the lecture-room.

2. The Professor shall deliver written and oral lectures upon all the branches of theological science, in the order prescribed in the present text-book used in the institution, and embracing a special reference to the Canons and other standards of the Church, and all the modern controversies in Theology ; provided, however, that these lectures shall not be passing notes and isolated remarks upon the subjects of review, but full, connected, continuous, and well digested prelections upon the whole system of theology, as well Polemic as Didactic.

3. It shall be the duty of the Didactic Professor to institute and prosecute a course of elementary instruction upon the subjects of theology, with the First, or Junior Class, regulated by the standards of the Church, in such a way as shall prepare them to enter upon the full study of the system of Didactic Theology, in the second year of their course ; during which year, his lectures on Didactic Theology shall be delivered ; and when the students shall arrive at the third, or senior year, the Professor shall meet them daily, and they shall receive, in addition to such other instruction as he may give them, his system of lectures on Polemic Theology, and shall be exercised by him in the writing of dissertations on such theses in divinity as he shall from time to time assign to them ; provided always, that the Professor shall be careful to examine the students in such way as he may judge most advisable, upon the substance of every lecture delivered by him.

4. It shall be the duty of the Professor to direct the attention of the students, to the reading and study of such works on the several subjects embraced in his lectures, as they shall be presented, as he may think calculated to give them full and correct information in relation to all the great doctrines embraced in the system of theology, and he shall, from time to time, satisfy himself that these works are consulted and studied by them.

5. It shall be the duty of the Professor to prepare a full and copious system of questions upon all the subjects of Didactic and



**Polemic Theology, which the students shall be obliged to answer in writing, at their rooms, and at their leisure, and which shall form the basis of their examination before the Board of Superintendents.**

**JOHN GARRETSON, *Chairman.***

The other Professors appeared before the Committee, made statements respecting the course of instruction pursued by them, gave a syllabus of the same, and suggested the importance of a course of elementary instruction upon the Didactic system, being given to the students in the First, or Junior year of their term of study.

Closed with prayer.

**THOMAS DE WITT, *President.***

**JOHN GARRETSON, *Secretary.***

The Rev. Dr. DeWitt, having declared his dissent from the plan of studies to regulate the duties of the Professor of Didactic and Polemic Theology contained in the minutes of the special committee, which bears his signature as Chairman, and requested that his dissent be recorded on the Minutes of Synod;

***Resolved,*** That in this wish he be indulged.

The following is the plan of study as amended and adopted by the joint meeting of the Special Committee, and of the Board of Superintendents.

At a joint meeting of the Board of Superintendents of the Theological Seminary of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church, with the Special Committee appointed by General Synod, in June 1841, to look into and regulate the affairs of said Seminary, in reference particularly to the Didactic Professorship, which joint meeting was held, on the 13th and 14th July, in obedience to the directions of General Synod—the Committee having reported a *plan and course of instruction* for the Didactic Professor, the same was discussed and adopted, as follows :

1. While the present text-book shall be put into the hands of the students, and they shall be required habitually to refer to it on the

subjects of the course, as they occur, it shall be chiefly used by the professor as his guide in the order of his instruction. But the students shall not be required either to commit to memory or to recite the same in the lecture-room.

2. The professor shall deliver original, full, connected, continuous, and well digested written lectures, upon the branches of theological science, in the order prescribed in the present text-book used in the institution, and embracing a special reference to the Canons and the other standards of the Church, and all the modern controversies in Theology.

3. It shall be the duty of the Didactic Professor, to institute and prosecute a course of elementary instruction upon the subjects of Theology, with the First, or Junior Class, regulated by the standards of the Church, in such a way as shall prepare them to enter upon the full study of the system of Didactic Theology in the second year of their course, during which year his lectures on Didactic Theology shall be delivered. And when the students shall arrive at the third, or senior year, the Professor shall meet them daily, and they shall receive, in addition to such other instruction as he may give them, his system of lectures on Polemic Theology, and shall be exercised by him in the writing of dissertations on such theses in divinity as he shall from time to time assign to them: Provided always, that the Professor shall be careful to examine the students in such way as he may judge most advisable, upon the substance of every lecture delivered by him.

4. It shall be the duty of the Professor to direct the attention of the students to the reading of such works, on the several subjects, as they occur in his lectures, as he may think calculated to give them full and correct information in relation to all the great doctrines embraced in the system of theology, and he shall, from time to time, satisfy himself that these works are consulted by them.

5. It shall be the duty of the Professor to prepare a full and copious system of questions upon all the subjects of Didactic and Polemic Theology, which the students shall be obliged to answer in

writing, at their rooms, and at their leisure, and which shall form the basis of their examination before the Board of Superintendents.

(Signed,) N. I. MARSELUS, *President*.

R. D. VAN KLEECK, *Clerk*.

Whereupon, it was *Resolved*, That the communication of the Rev. Professor, and the above report of the Committee, together with the accompanying documents, be referred to a special committee, consisting of the Rev. Isaac Ferris, D. D., Jacob Van Vechten, D. D., and Joseph Wilson, and the Elders, Isaac Hutton and P. V. N. Morris.

The Committee reported, and their report was accepted, amended, adopted, and is as follows :

The Committee appointed on the communication of the Didactic Professor, and the accompanying documents, submit the following report, viz :

The Committee have had referred to them the original minutes of the Special Committee of General Synod, appointed in June last, together with their report, the plan adopted by the Joint Committee consisting of the Board of Superintendents and the Special Committee of Synod, together with the complaint and objections of Dr. Milledoler, and have given to them a minute examination.

In order to act with understanding, it was agreed by your Committee to invite a representation from the Special Committee and the Board of Superintendents, together with the Didactic Professor, to meet with the Committee and submit, the former a further exposition of their plan with their reasons for it, and the last, his further views in reference to it.

Such interview was had at some length, and it has enabled your Committee to offer such remarks and suggestions as they trust will be of advantage to the Synod in its deliberations and action.

The plan of the Joint Committee embraces five sections, in several of which the Professor agrees with the Committee. They are the third, relating to "elementary instruction upon the subjects

of theology," to the Junior Class, and so much as relates to written dissertations by the Senior Class ; the fourth, relating to a course of theological reading by the young men ; and the fifth, relating to the preparation of a full and copious system of theological questions by the Professor. As to the first, or mode of using the text-book, he differs from the proposed plan, believing that his present mode of using it is decidedly preferable. After examining this point with care, and observing that the Special Committee of Synod had adopted it,—after having an interview with the Professor, and hearing a specimen of his mode, your Committee believe that the modification adopted by the Joint Committee is important, and should be retained.

A single addition is suggested by your Committee, viz : that a general syllabus of the whole, in as condensed a form as its completeness will allow, embracing definitions, and the *classis argumentorum*, drawn from the text-book by the Professor, should be in the hands of every student, and committed to memory carefully by the Junior Class ; to be reviewed, from time to time, by all the classes. By thus giving the Juniors a "birds-eye" view of the whole field, they will be enabled to labor more intelligently, to apply their general reading with advantage, and a definiteness and compactness of form will be given to their views of the theological system.

The principal objections of the Professor relate to the second article of the plan, and so much of the third as refers to the Polemic course and meeting the Senior Class daily. After hearing the whole matter, it is believed by your Committee that the principal difficulties originate in misapprehension. As to the abstract point,—the preparation of lectures in a continuous series, there is no objection ; but it is supposed by the Professor, these, embracing a full course, were to be given immediately, from the commencement of the approaching session. This would be impossible in any case, and unreasonable to demand ; but this was not the view of the Committee. They leave the matter to be accomplished at the earliest period practicable, securing the institution, in the end, a full written course by the Didactic Professor. In reference to the Polemic

Department, it is not intended to separate the answering of ordinary objections from the Didactic course ; this would be decidedly out of place, for it is far preferable, while a great subject is under consideration, and the mind of the student is full of it, to apply the key to unlock difficulties and to clear away objections. But while this may be done in general, there are at least four great controversies coming within the range of the Didactic Professor, where he should not merely act on the defensive, as he does in his general course, but carry the war into the enemies' camp ; these are the *Deistical*, the *Socinian* or *Unitarian*, the *Arminian* and the *Universalist*. On all these, the theological student should be made perfectly at home, for he has to encounter them, (and as defended with great art and shrewdness often,) as soon as he enters upon his ministerial work :—And at no place can he more advantageously attend to them than in the Theological Seminary, under the instruction of his professor, and where he has a large and well selected library to examine.

In the propriety and value of such a course, your Committee are of one mind, and believe that from fifteen to twenty lectures would embrace the whole.

It will be seen that the Joint Committee have left the details, or the carrying out of their plan, to the judgment of the Professor,—in consequence of this, it appears their views have been misapprehended, and the work marked out has seemed more onerous than it was. In order to make the whole matter plain, the Synod will allow their Committee to show how the whole may be carried out.

It should be remembered that there are nearly forty weeks of labor, per year, in our Theological Seminary, and there are five days of lecture, each Saturday being devoted to exercises in preaching, by the students.

Now the whole course of Didactic Theology may be comprehended in about ninety lectures, enabling the Professor, with ease, by giving three per week through the theological year, to complete the whole in a year. On these lectures the students of the two upper classes should invariably attend.

The two remaining working days may then be given to hearing the dissertations by the Senior Class and the requisite examinations on theology. But as the number in the Senior Class will not probably be at any time, so large as to keep up every week through the year, the reading of dissertations by the Seniors, without infringing on other duties ; here would be place for the Professor to introduce his Polemic lectures, giving perhaps half a dozen during the fall months ; as many during the winter months ; and as many during the spring and summer. Thus alternating, the work at length would not be onerous either to the Professor or the Seniors. As regards the young men, their work would be facilitated, should the Professor give at the commencement of the session, to each, the theses on which he has to write, with such references to authorities as may be desirable for the whole year, allotting to each from five to ten theses, the number being governed by the size of each Senior Class, and the length of the session. As these dissertations should not be long, it will often be practicable to hear and criticise several at a given meeting of the class.

In reference to the fourth article of the plan, it should be understood as directing the reading and study of the students, by *subjects* rather than by books. The reading of whole works, in which perhaps only a few chapters relate to a subject in question, would be in general unprofitable and impracticable.

After giving a careful examination to the whole matter, your Committee, with the explanations now given of the mode of carrying out the plan submitted, do give it their decided approbation, and believe it calculated to impart a higher tone to the course of study in the Didactic Department, and conform this department to the course of the best theological institutions in our country.

They have accordingly agreed to recommend the following resolutions.

1. *Resolved*, That the plan of theological instruction in the Didactic Department, lately adopted by the Joint Committee of the Board of Superintendents and the Special Committee of Synod, be adopted as modified by this report, it being understood that the full

execution of it by the Didactic Professor, shall not be expected immediately, but at as early a period as practicable.

2. *Resolved*, That while the Synod approve this plan, they do not insist on the full execution of it, by the Didactic Professor immediately, but at as early a period as may be practicable.

3. *Resolved*, That in the mean time, the Professor conform, as far as possible, to this plan, in relation to the instruction of the Juniors, the assignment of theses, and hearing of dissertations by the Seniors, and the fourth and fifth articles of the plan.

4. *Resolved*, That it is enjoined on the theological students to render a prompt conformity to what shall be required of them by this plan, it being understood that their whole theological course be allowed for compliance with the fifth article of the plan, and that the answers be given in the general form of catechetical answers.

All which is respectfully submitted, in behalf of the Committee.

ISAAC FERRIS, *Chairman*.

Whereupon, it was *Resolved*, That the Rev. Andrew Yates, D. D., R. Ormiston Currie and Richard D. Van Kleeck, and the Elders, George Zabriskie, William B. Crosby and Anthony Van Bergen, be a Committee to place a copy of the above report, in the hands of the Rev. Professor Milledoler, by to-morrow morning.

The Committee reported that they had waited upon the Rev. Professor in relation to the business of their appointment, and that he stated to them that he would return an answer as soon as practicable.

The Rev. Professor Milledoler appeared in Synod, and presented the following communication.

*To the Rev. General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church.*

BRETHREN,

On action now had by this General Synod, there is but one course left for the undersigned to pursue.

After expressing his entire dissatisfaction with all the proceedings which have led to this result, from the reception of the memorial to the present hour, and especially to the precedent thereby sustained, and which in his apprehension goes to destroy the good order of every literary institution in the country, he feels himself constrained to declare, that he must, and hereby does resign his Professorship in the Theological College of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church.

He also wishes it to be distinctly understood, that with this resignation he must decline entering upon the former duties of his department from the commencement of the theological year, next ensuing.

PHILIP MILLEDOLER.

*New-York, September 9th, 1841.*

Whereupon, it was *Resolved*, That the resignation of the Rev. Dr. Milledoler be accepted.

*Resolved*, That the communication of the Rev. Professor be referred to a Special Committee, consisting of the Rev. Thomas De Witt, D. D., Andrew Yates, D. D., and Isaac Ferris, D. D., and the Elders, George Zabriskie and Issac Hutton.

The Committee reported, and their report was *unanimously* adopted, and is as follows :

The Committee to whom was referred the consideration of an appropriate notice of the resignation of Professor Milledoler, respectfully recommend the adoption of the following resolutions.

*Resolved*, That in accepting the resignation of Professor Milledoler, this Synod feel bound to express their grateful sense, and acknowledgment of the zeal, industry, and fidelity, with which he has discharged the duties of the office of Professor of Didactic and Polemic Theology.

*Resolved*, That the Synod implore the blessing of the Head of the Church on Professor Milledoler, in retiring from his office ; that a rich measure of the consolations of the Spirit may be enjoyed by him, to crown the advanced years of a life of long continued faithful labors and usefulness, in the Church of Christ.



**Resolved**, That the Board of Corporation of General Synod continue to pay to the late Professor Milledoler, his stipulated salary, until his successor shall have been inducted into office.

**Resolved**, That the Stated Clerk transmit a copy of the above resolutions to the Rev. Dr. Milledoler.

All which is respectfully submitted,

THOMAS DE WITT, *Chairman*.

Synod proceeded to appoint a Professor of Theology as successor to the Rev. Professor Milledoler.

A number of candidates for the Professorship having been nominated, and said nominations being by ballot reduced to two, on a succeeding day, after a season spent in special prayer, Synod proceeded to elect a Professor. On counting the ballots, it appeared that the Rev. John Ludlow, D. D., was elected the Professor. Whereupon, it was

**Resolved**, That the Rev. John Ludlow, D. D., be, and hereby is appointed Professor of Didactic and Polemic Theology in the Theological Seminary of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church.

**Resolved**, That an instrument, certifying the appointment and specifying the duties of the office, be signed in the presence of the General Synod, by the President thereof, and by him be giving in the name of the Church, to the Professor elect.

**Resolved**, That the salary of the Professor elect be one thousand five hundred and seventy-five dollars, together with the use of the east wing of the College edifice.

**Resolved**, That should the Professor elect accept his appointment, his inauguration take place on the third Tuesday of October next, at 11 A. M., in the Dutch Church in New-Brunswick.

**Resolved**, That the Rev. Thomas E. Vermilye, D. D. preach the sermon on the occasion, and the Rev. S. A. Van Vranken, D. D., deliver the charge to the Professor, and that Rev. J. B. Hardenbergh, D. D., be secundus to Dr. Vermilye, and Rev. Thomas M. Strong, to Dr. Van Vranken.

**Resolved,** That Messrs. Dr. William Van Deusen, Peter Spader and Henry Van Arsdalen, be a Committee to aid the Professor in his removal to New-Brunswick, and that the Treasurer of General Synod is hereby authorized to pay the expenses of the same.

The Committee on the Professorate reported, and their report was adopted, and is as follows :

The Committee on the Professorate beg leave to submit the following report on the subjects referred to them.

1. The case of Samuel Scudder, son of Rev. Dr. Scudder, missionary to India, is one of peculiar interest, and commends itself alike to the sympathies and obligations of the Church. It cannot but be grateful to our Church to have the opportunity to educate for the ministry of reconciliation, the son of almost the oldest missionary in the foreign field, and he, one who went forth from our own altars.

The Committee therefore recommend the following resolution.

**Resolved,** That Samuel Scudder, on presenting the necessary testimonials, be, and hereby is recommended for aid from the Van Benschoten fund, and if the number on that fund be complete, he be placed by the Board of Education on any scholarship now unoccupied.

2. Mr. Jacob West, at present of the Senior Class of Rutgers College, makes application to be transferred to the Van Benschoten fund. As the Synod, in June last, referred to the Board of Education to fill the vacancies on this fund, the Committee recommend the following.

**Resolved,** That the case of Mr. West be referred to the Board of Education, and commended to their favorable regard, if any vacancies exist in the number of beneficiaries of the Van Benschoten fund.

3. Mr. Barnabas Collins, of the Theological Seminary, now about entering the Senior Class, asks a dispensation from the last year's study. He submits as the reasons for such dispensation, his

*pecuniary embarrassment—the continued ill health of his wife, and his age, which is nearly thirty years—and that he has studied four years.* This case was before the Synod in 1840, when the dispensation sought, was declined.

The case of Mr. Collins is a very trying one, and the Committee sympathize with him; they have not, however, all the light and knowledge of his qualifications, necessary to meet his request directly. As a special committee of the Board of Superintendents and the Theological Faculty meet next week for the admission of students, it seems proper to refer this case to them. The Committee accordingly recommend the following.

*Resolved,* That the Committee of the Board of Superintendents and the Faculty, in their meeting for the admission of students, examine the qualifications of Mr. Barnabas Collins, and if he be found fully qualified, they grant the dispensation solicited, and a professoral certificate be given to him.

4. In reference to the additional accommodations in the College edifice, for the purposes of lectures and recitations, asked for by the Faculty through the Board of Superintendents of the College, the Committee would remark, that it is a matter of present necessity, and that some provision should be made without delay. The only relief which offers itself to the Committee, is, that the portions of the central building which are now occupied by the professors for domestic purposes, be given up for College use, and that in lieu of the same, if deemed necessary by the professors, two temporary side buildings be added, one to each wing, (on the rear,) for kitchen and bed-room use. They recommend the following resolution.

*Resolved,* That this subject be referred to the Board of Direction, to give such relief in this case as may be deemed practicable, and if considered necessary, they are hereby authorised to raise the means necessary for, and to erect two side buildings of one story and a half each, to be attached, one to each wing of the College edifice, in the rear of the same—and when such buildings are

completed, the rooms now occupied by the professors in the central part of the edifice, be devoted to College use.

All which is respectfully submitted, in behalf of the Committee.

ISAAC FERRIS, *Chairman.*

## ARTICLE XVIII.

### *Missions.*

A communication was received from the Corresponding Secretary of the Board of Missions of the General Synod, relative to the appointment of a Financial Secretary by the Boards of Missions, as recommended by this Synod, (Vol. v. p. 529,) and appointing the Rev. Dr. Thomas De Witt, Isaac Ferris, D. D., and the elder, Cornelius L. Hardenbergh, a Committee to confer with the Synod on the subject. Whereupon it was

*Resolved*, That the above named persons be accredited as Commissioners from the Board of Missions, in reference to the subject of their appointment.

The Committee having been heard, a resolution was offered on the subject of appointing a Financial Secretary by the Synod, which, after considerable discussion, was lost.

The following resolutions were then adopted.

*Resolved*, That the resolutions adopted in June last, authorising the Boards of Missions to appoint a Financial Secretary, be repealed.

*Resolved*, That it be urged on each Classis, at its approaching session, to arrange and carry out a plan of pastoral agencies, by interchange of pulpits, or otherwise, by which collections shall be taken, as follows:—on any Sabbath in October or November, for Domestic Missions—on any Sabbath in January, for the Board of Education—and on any Sabbath in April or May, for the Board of Foreign Missions; and that this be the arrangement for each year, until otherwise directed.

*Resolved*, That in the judgment of this Synod, all pastors and consistories are under solemn obligation to the Church, and those

looking to her for aid to carry out faithfully, and in the most efficient way practicable, this arrangement for meeting the calls of our benevolent operations.

*Resolved*, That this Synod highly approve and commend to the churches, as one of the most efficient means of collecting the charities of the Church, the plan of dividing each congregation into sections, and appointing persons (both males and females,) to call upon every member in each section, periodically, for contributions to benevolent objects.

*Resolved*, That the Stated Clerk publish the above resolutions in the Christian Intelligencer, accompanied by a brief appeal to the churches.

#### ARTICLE XXIV.

##### *Accounts.*

The door-keeper's bill, amounting to \$8, was presented, and ordered to be paid.

#### ARTICLE XXV.

##### *Resumption and Close.*

*Resolved*, That the Stated Clerk publish one thousand copies of the Minutes of this Synod, duly authenticated, and that he distribute among the Classes the number of copies directed by them.

*Resolved*, That the Classes be charged half the usual price for copies of the Minutes of this Synod.

Agreeably to a standing rule of the Synod, the roll was called at the close of the session, when it appeared that the following members were absent without permission, viz :—Rev. Peter Allen, Staats Van Santvood, John H. Pitcher, James Murphy, William Pitcher, and Elders, Benjamin Wood, George Newkirk, Isaac Roosevelt, J. W. Pitcher, Henry R. Van Ness, John J. Demarest, Elijah Alliger, and William Knox.

The Minutes were read and approved.

**SEPTEMBER, 1841.**

**31**

**ARTICLE XXVI.**

***Adjournment.***

Synod adjourned, to meet in the city of New-York, on the first Wednesday in June next, at 10 o'clock A. M., and was closed with singing and prayer by the President.

**JAMES ROMEYN, *President.***

**JOHN GARRETSON, *Assessor.***

**RANSFORD WELLS, } *Clerks.***  
**C. L. VAN DYCK, }**

**Official copy, from the original Minutes.**

**THOS. M. STRONG, *Stated Clerk.***



THE  
ACTS AND PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
GENERAL SYNOD  
OF THE  
Reformed Protestant Dutch Church  
IN  
NORTH AMERICA,

CONVENED IN EXTRA SESSION, IN THE CITY OF NEW-YORK,  
ON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 20th, 1841.

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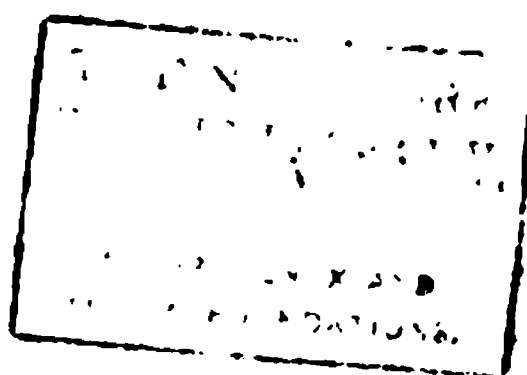
NEW-YORK :

THOMAS R. MERCEIN, JR., PRINTER,  
240 Pearl st., corner Burling-slip.

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1842.





# ACTS AND PROCEEDINGS

*Of the General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church in North America, convened in Extra Session, in the City of New-York, on Wednesday the twentieth day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-one. The session continued from the twentieth to the twenty-first day inclusive.*

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## FORMATION OF SYNOD.

### ARTICLE I.

#### *Opening of Synod.*

The Synod was opened with prayer, by the Rev. James Romeyn, the President.

### ARTICLE II.

#### *Members Present.*

#### FROM THE PARTICULAR SYNOD OF NEW-YORK.

##### *1. From the Classis of New-York.*

Rev. Thomas DeWitt, D. D., Isaac S. Demund, and Enock Van Aken.

Elders, William J. Roome, William Hardenbrook, Jr., and Abraham Van Nest.

##### *2. From the South Classis of New-York.*

Rev. John E. Miller, F. F. Cornell, and James M. Matthews, D. D.

Elders, William B. Crosby, M. W. Woodward, and Benjamin Wood.

3. *From the Classis of New-Brunswick.*

Rev. William Reily, Talbot W. Chambers, and A. A. Marse-  
lus.

Elders, Peter Wortman, John S. Denise, and P. Z. Elmendorf.\*

4. *From the Classis of Bergen.*

Rev. John Garretson, Ransford Wells, and Benjamin C. Tay-  
lor.

Elder, George Zabriskie.

5. *From the Classis of Paramus.*

Rev. Wilhelmus Eltinge, D. D.

Elders,           \*           \*           \*           \*

6. *From the Classis of Long-Island.*

Rev. William H. Campbell, R. Ormiston Currie, and Garrit I.  
Garretson.

Elder, John Williamson.\*

7. *From the Classis of Philadelphia.*

Rev. J. R. Talmage, and Peter Labagh.

Elder, John Van Zandt.

8. *From the Classis of Poughkeepsie.*

Rev. Alexander M. Mann, John G. Johnson, and John H. Van  
Wagenen.

Elders, Isaac Roosevelt, and Peter Brett.

\* Took their seats on the second day of the session.

9. *From the Classis of Passaic.*

Rev. Jeremiah S. Lord, Garrit C. Schanck, and Joseph Wilson.\*  
Elders, Daniel Jacobus, and Henry R. Van Ness.\*

FROM THE PARTICULAR SYNOD OF ALBANY.

1. *From the Classis of Albany.*

Rev. Staats Van Santvoord, and John M. Van Buren.  
Elders, \* \* \* \*

2. *From the Classis of Ulster.*

Rev. Douw Van Olinda, John B. Alliger, and Samuel Harlow.  
Elder, Elijah Alliger.

3. *From the Classis of Rensselaer.*

Rev. Andrew N. Kittle.  
Elders, \* \* \* \*

4. *From the Classis of Washington.*

Rev. John I. Quick.  
Elder, P. V. N. Morris.

5. *From the Classis of Montgomery.*

Rev. Jacob D. Fonda.  
Elders, \* \* \* \*

6. *From the Classis of Schoharie.*

Rev. Richard D. Van Kleeck.  
Elders, \* \* \* \*

\* Took their seats on the second day of the session.

7. *From the Classis of Schenectady.*

Rev. \* \* \* \*

Elder, Cornelius J. Fonda.

8. *From the Classis of Cayuga.*

Rev. Thomas A. Ammerman.

Elders, \* \* \* \*

9. *From the Classis of Orange.*

Rev. Ferdinand H. Vanderveer, and Robert P. Lee.

Elder, Ephraim Smith.

10. *From the Classis of Greene.*

Rev. James Romeyn, Jeremiah Searle, and Brogun Hoff.

Elder, Anthony Van Bergen.

## ARTICLE III.

*Moderators.*

The Rev. James Romeyn, President.

The Rev. John Garretson, Adsector.

The Rev. Ransford Wells, Clerk, *pro tem.*

## ACTS OF THE SYNOD.

The President laid before Synod a constitutional request which he had received, to call an extra meeting of the Synod, "for the purpose of electing a Professor of Didactic and Polemic Theology, in the room of the Rev. Dr. Ludlow, who has declined the appointment, and for such other purposes as the case may require."

## ARTICLE IX.

*Church Government.*

The Rev. John Knox, D. D., was added to the committee to whom were referred the two reports on the subject of the manner of dealing with the baptized members of the Church. (See p. 9.)

## ARTICLE XIV.

*Professorate.*

The President laid before the Synod, the following communication, which he had received from the Rev. John Ludlow, D. D., who had been elected Professor of Didactic and Polemic Theology, in the Theological Seminary.

*Philadelphia, September 23d, 1841.*

REV. JAMES ROMEYN,

*President of General Synod.*

DEAR BROTHER,

I had the honor to receive from you, as the authorized Commissioner of the General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church, the official information of my election as Professor of Didactic and Polemic Theology in the Theological Seminary at New-Brunswick.

In the fulness of my heart, I am at a loss for language to express my grateful sense of this renewed testimony of the confidence reposed in me by my fathers and brethren of our beloved Church; their partiality and kindness have imposed upon me a weight of responsibility which oppresses me. I have paused and pondered—I have never felt more the need of divine direction in the consideration of the solemn and momentous question which this election presents to me, with I trust, a sincere desire to know and do my duty, and I am deeply pained that the conclusion to which I have come is

at variance with the expressed wishes of the General Synod. I do not deem it necessary to enter into a detail of the reasons which have brought me to this conclusion ; yet, I am constrained to believe that if they were fully known, they would justify the decision which I have made.

In returning through you, this answer to the General Synod, I beg to assure its members of my hearty affection and grateful remembrance of them, with my fervent desire that the Great Head of the Church may direct them, so to fill the important vacancy, in the Seminary at New-Brunswick, that his highest glory may be subserved, and the spiritual interests of our department of Zion, especially, may be most effectually promoted.

With great affection,

Your brother in the gospel,

JOHN LUDLOW.

Whereupon, Synod proceeded to appoint a Professor of Theology in the place of the Rev. Dr. Ludlow, who has declined the appointment.

A number of candidates for the Professorship having been nominated, on the succeeding day, after a season spent in special prayer, Synod proceeded to elect a Professor. On counting the ballots, it appeared that the Rev. Samuel A. Van Vranken, D. D., was elected the Professor.

Whereupon it was *Resolved*, That the Rev. Samuel A. Van Vranken, D. D., be, and hereby is appointed Professor of Didactic and Polemic Theology in the Theological Seminary of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church.

*Resolved*, That an instrument, certifying the appointment and specifying the duties of the office, be signed in the presence of the General Synod, by the President thereof, and by him be given in the name of the Church, to the Professor elect.

*Resolved*, That the salary of the Professor elect, be one thousand five hundred and seventy-five dollars, together with the use of the east wing of the college edifice.

The President waited upon the Professor elect, and presented to him the certificate of his appointment. After a short period, the Professor elect transmitted to the Synod a communication signifying his acceptance of the appointment, on condition of his "being excused from the performance of service in the Literary Institution."

Whereupon it was *Resolved*, That the communication be referred to a special committee, consisting of the Rev. James Romeyn, R. Ormiston Currie and Peter Labagh, and the Elders, Abraham Van Nest and Anthony Van Bergen.

The committee reported, and their report was adopted, and is as follows:

The committee appointed to confer with Dr. Van Vranken in reference to his "performing service in the Literary Institution," Report, that after a free conversation with him on the subject, he consented to withdraw the condition on which he accepted the appointment to the professorship of Didactic and Polemic Theology, provided it be distinctly understood, that he is not to be required to discharge duties in the literary institution, until he shall so far have completed his theological course as that attention to the department assigned him in the College, shall not be unreasonable in the amount of duty required, oppressive in execution and injurious to the great primary object of his appointment.

The committee therefore recommend, that the acceptance of the Professor elect with the proviso, be deemed satisfactory, and that the following resolution be adopted:

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Trustees to enter into such a temporary arrangement with the Professor in regard to teaching in the literary department, as shall be consistent with his present circumstances.

J. ROMEYN, *Chairman*.

*Resolved*, That the inauguration of the Professor elect, take place on the second Tuesday of December, at 11 o'clock A. M., in the Reformed Dutch Church in New-Brunswick.



*Resolved*, That the Rev. Thomas E. Vermilye, D. D., preach the sermon on the occasion, and the Rev. Isaac Ferris, D. D., deliver the charge to the Professor, and that the Rev. Dr. James B. Hardenbergh be secundus to Rev. Dr. Vermilye, and Rev. Thomas M. Strong, to Rev. Dr. Isaac Ferris.

*Resolved*, That Messrs. Dr. William Van Deusen, Peter Spader, and Henry Van Arsdalen, be a committee to aid the Professor in his removal to New-Brunswick, and that the Treasurer of General Synod is hereby authorized to pay the expenses of the same.

#### ARTICLE XVIII.

##### *Missions.*

The Treasurer of the Board of Foreign Missions appeared in Synod, and made a statement relative to the receipts and expenditures of the Board for the past 3<sup>rd</sup> months.

#### ARTICLE XX.

##### *Particularia.*

The Rev. Dr. DeWitt, having stated that he had received information from J. Romeyn Brodhead, Esq., Commissioner from the State of New-York in Holland, that there are many valuable documents among the archives of the Classis of Amsterdam, relating to the history of the Church : it was

*Resolved*, That discretionary power be given to the Rev. Dr. De Witt, in connection with the Board of Corporation, to have translations of such documents made at the expense of the Synod.

#### ARTICLE XXIV.

##### *Accounts.*

*Resolved*, That the Treasurer be authorized to pay the expenses incurred by the President, in having circulars printed for the calling

of the extra meetings of the Synod, as well as his travelling expenses, in communicating to Dr. Ludlow his appointment.

The door-keeper's bill, amounting to \$4, was presented and ordered to be paid.

#### ARTICLE XXV.

##### *Resumption and Close.*

*Resolved*, That the Stated Clerk publish one thousand copies of the Minutes of this Synod with those of the next Stated Session, duly authenticated, and that he distribute among the Classes the number of copies directed by them.

Agreeably to the standing rule of the Synod, the roll was called at the close of the session, when it appeared that the following persons were absent without permission, viz :—Rev. Talbot W. Chambers, Joseph Wilson, Staats Van Santvoord, Samuel Harlow, Ferdinand H. Vanderveer, Robert P. Lee, Brogun Hoff, and the Elders, William J. Roome and Benjamin Wood.

The Minutes were read and approved.

#### ARTICLE XXVI.

##### *Adjournment.*

Synod adjourned, to meet in the city of New-York, on the first Wednesday in June next, at 10 o'clock A. M., and was closed with prayer by the Adseessor.

JAMES ROMEYN, *President.*

JOHN GARRETSON, *Adseessor.*

RANSFORD WELLS, *Clerk pro tem.*

Official copy, from the original Minutes,

THOS. M. STRONG, *Stated Clerk.*



THE  
ACTS AND PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
GENERAL SYNOD  
OF THE  
Reformed Protestant Dutch Church  
IN  
NORTH AMERICA,  
AT  
NEW-YORK, JUNE, 1842.

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NEW-YORK:

THOMAS R. MERCEIN, JR., PRINTER,  
240 Pearl st., corner Burling-slip.

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1842.

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# ACTS AND PROCEEDINGS

*Of the General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church in North America, convened in the City of New-York, on Wednesday, the first day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-two. The session continued from the first to the eighth day of June, inclusive.*

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## FORMATION OF SYNOD.

### ARTICLE I.

#### *Opening of Synod.*

The Synod was opened with prayer, by the Rev. James Romeyn, the President of the last General Synod, who preached a sermon on the evening of the first day of the session, from Habakkuk, ii, 1—4, "I will stand upon my watch, and set me upon the tower, and will watch to see what he will say unto me, and what I shall answer when I am reprov'd. And the Lord answered me, and said, write the vision, and make it plain upon the tables, that he may run that readeth it. For the vision is, yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry. Behold, his soul which is lifted up, is not upright in him: but the just shall live by his faith."

### ARTICLE II.

#### *Members Present.*

#### FROM THE PARTICULAR SYNOD OF NEW-YORK.

##### 1. *From the Classis of New-York.*

Rev. Thomas E. Vermilye, D. D., James B. Hardenburgh, D. D., and John Knox, D. D.

Elders, Abraham Van Nest, Smith Bloomfield, and Peter Sharpe.\*

2. *From the South Classis of New-York.*

Rev. Stephen H. Meeker,† Mancius S. Hutton, D. D., and Frederic F. Cornell.

Elders, Horatio P. Allen, and Grant Dubois.

3. *From the Classis of New-Brunswick.*

Rev. S. B. How, D. D., George Schenck, and James Otterson.

Elders, Cornelius Latourette,‡ Cornelius W. Van Horn, and George G. Nevius.

4. *From the Classis of Bergen.*

Rev. Philip Duryea, D. D., Ira C. Boice, and Alexander H. Warner.

Elders, Joseph W. Duryee, Stephen Terhune, and Henry H. Banta.

5. *From the Classis of Paramus.*

Rev. John H. Duryea,|| and Philip M. Brett,§ and Isaac D. Cole.

Elders, \* \* \* \*

6. *From the Classis of Long-Island.*

Rev. J. Abeel Baldwin, William R. Gordon, and William H. Van Doren.

Elder, Elias Hubbard.

\* Took his seat on the *third* day of the session.

† Obtained leave of absence on the *seventh* day of the session, and was succeeded by Rev. James M. Matthews, D. D., on the *eighth* day of the session.

‡ Succeeded on the *seventh* day of the session, by his *secundus*, John Garretson.

|| Obtained leave of absence on the *eighth* day of the session.

§ Obtained leave of absence on the *sixth* day of the session.

7. *From the Classis of Philadelphia.*

Rev. John Van Liew, and C. C. Van Arsdale.  
Elders, Michael Reed, and George Vreerobome.

8. *From the Classis of Poughkeepsie.*

Rev. Cornelius Van Cleef, Francis M. Kip, and Alexander M. Mann.\*  
Elders, John Vanderbilt, and Andrew Wight.

9. *From the Classis of Passaic.*

Rev. Horace Doolittle, Jeremiah S. Lord, and Joseph Wilson.  
Elders, Daniel N. Jacobus, Jacob M. Ryerson, and Peter Sandford.†

10. *From the Classis of Illinois.*

Rev.	*	*	*	*
Elders,	*	*	*	*

## FROM THE PARTICULAR SYNOD OF ALBANY.

1. *From the Classis of Albany.*

Rev. William H. Campbell, James A. H. Cornell, and Oscar H. Gregory.‡  
Elder, William C. Miller.|| §

2. *From the Classis of Ulster.*

Rev. Anthony Elmendorf, and Cornelius L. Van Dyke.  
Elder, Sevryn Bruyn.¶

\* Took his seat on the *second* day of the session, and was succeeded on the *sixth* day of the session, by his *secundus*, Rev. John G. Johnson.

† Obtained leave of absence, on the *fourth* day of the session.

‡ Took his seat on the *seventh* day of the session.

|| Took his seat on the *second* day of the session.

§ Obtained leave of absence on the *sixth* day of the session.

¶ Took his seat on the *sixth* day of the session.



### 3. *From the Classis of Rensselaer.*

Rev. John Gosman, D. D.,\* and John Gray.†

Elders, Abraham V. V. Eltinge,\* and Robert Johnson.† ‡

### 4. *From the Classis of Washington.*

Rev. John H. Pitcher, Cornelius Gates, and Benjamin Van Zandt.†

Elder, William Turk.

### 5. *From the Classis of Montgomery.*

Rev. David Dyer, James Murphey, D. D., and John P. Pepper.||

Elders, \* \* \* \*

### 6. *From the Classis of Schoharie.*

Rev. A. B. Chittenden, Richard D. Van Kleeck, and Samuel Robertson.\* ¶.

Elder, Peter Ball.

### 7. *From the Classis of Schenectady.*

Rev. Asahel Bronson, John B. Steele, and John A. Yates, D. D.\*

Elders, Eldert O. Van Woert, and John D. Ogsbury.§

### 8. *From the Classis of Cayuga.*

Rev. William Gray, and Benjamin Bassler.

Elders, \* \* \* \*

\* Took his seat on the *second* day of the session.

† Took their seats on the *third* day of the session.

‡ Obtained leave of absence on the *third* day of the session.

|| Took his seat on the *sixth* day of the session.

¶ Obtained leave of absence on the *fourth* day of the session.

§ Obtained leave of absence on the *sixth* day of the session.

9. *From the Classis of Orange.*

Rev. William Demarest.

Elders, William Houston,\* and Reuben Ostrander.†

10. *From the Classis of Greene.*

Rev. John Watson, James Romeyn,‡ and William Knight.

Elders, \* \* \* \*

The Rev. Professor Van Vranken, was present during a part of the session of the Synod.

ARTICLE III.

*Moderators.*

The Rev. James B. Hardenburgh, D. D., was chosen President.

The Rev. Mancius S. Hutton, D. D., was chosen Adsector.

The Rev. Richard D. Van Kleeck, and A. B. Chittenden, were chosen Clerks, *pro tem*.

ARTICLE IV.

*Reading of the Minutes.*

The Minutes of the last ordinary and of the extra sessions of the Synod in September and October last, were read.

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ACTS OF THE SYNOD.

ARTICLE I.

*Orders and Rules.*

These were read.

\* Obtained leave of absence on the *fourth* day of the session.

† Took their seats on the *second* day of the session.

‡ Obtained leave of absence on the *eighth* day of the session.

**ARTICLE II.***Standing Committees.*

The following were appointed :

*On the Professorate.*—Rev. James Murphy, D. D., John Gosman, D. D., and John H. Duryee, and the Elders, Abraham Van Nest, and Michael Reed.

*On Synodical Minutes.*—Rev. Francis M. Kip, William R. Gordon, and Philip M. Brett, and the Elders, Smith Bloomfield, and John D. Ogsbury.

*On Missions.*—Rev. Samuel B. How, D. D., William H. Campbell, and Cornelius Van Cleef, and the Elders, George G. Nevius, and Andrew Wight.

*On the State of Religion.*—Rev. Stephen H. Meeker, Philip Duryea, D. D., and Isaac D. Cole, and the Elders, Elias Hubbard, and John Vanderbilt.

*On Overtures and Judicial Business.*—Rev. John Van Liew, Cornelius C. Vanarsdale, and Ira C. Boice, and the Elders, Stephen Terhune, and Horatio P. Allen.

*On Accounts.*—Rev. Cornelius Gates, Jeremiah S. Lord, and James A. H. Cornell, and the Elders, Eldert O. Van Woert, and Peter Ball.

*On Correspondence.*—Rev. James Otterson, Benjamin Bassler, and John Abeel Baldwin, and the Elders, Jacob M. Ryerson, and Henry A. Banta.

*On Education.*—Rev. John Knox, D. D., James Romeyn, and Frederic F. Cornell, and the Elders, Daniel N. Jacobus, and Cornelius Latourette.

*On Nominations.*—Rev. Mancius S. Hutton, D. D., John H. Pitcher, and Cornelius L. Van Dyke, and the Elders, William Turk, and George Vreerobome.

*On the Widows' Fund.*—Rev. Thomas E. Vermilye, D. D., James Murphy, D. D., and Alexander H. Warner, and the Elders, Peter Sandford, and William Houston.

### ARTICLE III.

#### *Communications.*

Communications were received recommending Messrs. Anson Dubois, Henry Eckle, Jacob H. Fonda, and Barnard S. Schoonhoven, as suitable persons to receive aid from the funds of the Synod, in prosecuting studies preparatory to the gospel ministry, which were referred to the Committee on Education.

The following report was received from the Board of Superintendents of the Theological Seminary, which was referred to the Committee on the Professorate.

The Board of Superintendents of the Theological Seminary at New-Brunswick, respectfully report,—The Board met in the Theological Hall, New-Brunswick, July 13, 1841.

All the members were present except one.

The Board was organized by the election of the Rev. Nicholas I. Marselus, President.

Rev. Richard D. Van Kleeck, Clerk, *pro tem.*

In obedience to the resolution of General Synod at its last session, the Board proceeded to divide its members into three classes, by lot, as follows :

#### *Three Years.*

Rev. N. I. Marselus,	Rev. J. A. Van Doren,
“ W. Eltinge, D. D.	“ J. H. Van Wagenen,
“ J. Lillie,	“ J. C. Vandervoort.

#### *Two Years.*

Rev. J. E. Miller,	Rev. Ransford Wells,
“ I. P. Labagh,	“ James Romeyn,
“ H. N. Boyd,	“ R. D. Van Kleeck,
“ F. H. Vanderveer.	

*One Year.*

Rev. I. N. Wyckoff,  
 " A. J. Swits,  
 " G. C. Schenck,

Rev. J. D. Fonda,  
 " J. A. Liddell,  
 " G. Ludlow.

The term of service of those marked "one year," expires in July 1842. They belong to the following Classes, *Albany, Schenectady, Passaic, Montgomery, Cayuga, and Philadelphia.*

A report was received from the Theological Faculty, accompanied by the following list of students at present in the Seminary.

## SENIOR CLASS.

James A. H. Cornell,  
 Francis T. Drake,  
 Joseph Knieskern,  
 Alex. C. Millspaugh,  
 Gilbert McP. Myers,

Peter G. Randell,  
 William E. Turner,  
 William G. Thompson,  
 Samuel M. Woodbridge,  
 John Watson.

## MIDDLE CLASS.

Cornelius Blauvelt,  
 Cornelius E. Crispell,  
 Barnabas Collins,  
 John Dubois,  
 John DeWitt,  
 Wm. H. Holloway,  
 Victor M. Hulburt,  
 John Himrod,  
 Eben S. Hammond,

Samuel W. Mills,  
 Elbert S. Porter,  
 Abm. G. Ryerson,  
 Aaron B. Winfield,  
 John N. Shultz,  
 Martin V. Schoonmaker,  
 Andrew B. Taylor,  
 Ralph Willis,  
 Theodore F. Wyckoff.

## JUNIOR CLASS.

Jacob A. Lansing,  
 Isaac L. Kip Miller,  
 George R. Williamson,

Nicholas Dubois Williamson,  
 George P. Van Wyck,  
 Jaques Bennett,

E. Dodridge Ganse.

Gardiner Jones, who was a member of the Senior Class, was dismissed at the extra session of the Board, May 11, 1841, to unite himself with the Maryland Classis of the German Reformed Church.

Owing to circumstances with which the Synod are acquainted, the report says little respecting the deportment, and application of the young men. "They have generally attended with diligence to their studies, and that diligence has been crowned with some degree of success."

The classes were examined by the Professors, on the several departments of study in which they had been engaged. It was evident that a great amount of attention and study had been given to the various subjects prescribed by General Synod: and they having manifested adequate attainments in the aforesaid subjects.

The Senior Class, was examined particularly on their personal experience of piety, and on their motives in entering the ministry, and having given such satisfaction to the Board, that it was,

*Resolved*, That their examination be sustained, and that they be recommended to the Professors for their usual professoral certificate to entitle them to an examination before the several Classes.

In view of all these considerations, there is reason for gratitude to God, for his past favor to our school, and some encouragement for continued prayer, that the Great Head of the Church will continue to bless our institution.

All which is respectfully submitted,

N. I. MARSELUS, *President*.

RANSFORD WELLS, *Stated Clerk*.

A communication was received from the Rev. James Romeyn, relative to his appointment to prepare an "Analytical Illustration of the Catechism," and requesting either that he be released from the appointment, or that he be allowed more time for the execution of the work. Whereupon, it was

*Resolved*, That the report of the Rev. Mr. Romeyn be accepted, that his appointment be continued, and that he be permitted to take

his own time for the execution of the work for the preparation of which he has been appointed.

#### ARTICLE IV.

##### *Board of Corporation.*

The following report of the Board of Direction of the Corporation was received, accompanied with the Treasurer's Report, the Annual Digest, a list of the Securities belonging to the Synod, now in the hands of the Treasurer, and accounts current of said Board, with the Board of Education and the Widows' Fund, together with a list of the Scholarships and of the Clerical subscriptions to the Widows' Fund, which was read and accepted. So much as relates to the Widows' Fund, was referred to the Committee on the Widows' Fund, and the residue to the Committee on the Professorate.

To the General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church—

The Board of Direction have pleasure in reporting, that the business entrusted to their administration has been regularly, and in general, successfully attended to. So fully systematized has this business become, that very few details, other than are contained in the Treasurer's report are called for, in the present communication. The treasury of the Synod has been able punctually to meet all demands upon it, during the year. All the investments of the Synod, on bond and mortgage, are believed to be secure; and the interest upon them is received with punctuality. During the year, the sum of one thousand dollars has been paid into the treasury, by the Executors of the Will of the late Mrs. Jane Van Cortland, being the amount of one, of various liberal bequests, to different interests of our Church, by that benevolent and excellent lady.

Of the subscriptions to the endowment of the third Professorship, in the Theological Seminary, but *one* has been paid in, since the last meeting of the Synod; and upon several of them, considerable

arrearages of interest remain unpaid, and the Board exceedingly fear, that upon these subscriptions, there will be ultimately, heavy losses sustained. They therefore submit to Synod whether any plans other than those already attempted, can be devised to induce subscribers to pay the sums pledged by them respectively.

The amount received for the endowment of the Richard Cadmus Scholarship, will, according to the direction of Synod, be allowed to accumulate until it shall reach the sum of two thousand dollars.

The Widows' Fund continues to accumulate very slowly. A large proportion of the churches have not been heard from at all, on the subject, during the year. The Board have unabated confidence in the wisdom and beneficent tendency of the plan of this foundation; and are only alike surprised at what appears to them an inconsiderate apathy on the subject, on the part of the churches, and an improvidence on the part of ministers. They hope, when it shall become available for the actual relief of those interested in it, that it will speedily receive the attention to which it is entitled. It requires only that all our ministers become subscribers and that every church make an annual collection in its favor, to render it forever ample for all the objects which it contemplates. Fifteen hundred dollars has been invested for this fund during the past year.

The several funds of Synod continue to be kept distinct from each other. Their condition respectively, will be found clearly stated in the Treasurer's accounts herewith communicated.

The Board have not executed a lease, as authorized by Synod, in September last, of a lot of ground to the Trustees of Rutgers College, for the purpose of erecting thereon a building for the residence of a Professor, the Trustees not having yet called upon them for the same.

Professor Van Vranken having kindly given to Rutgers College some additional accommodation, without material inconvenience to himself, the Board have not felt themselves called to attempt the improvements suggested on page twenty-eight, of the Minutes of Synod of September last.



JUNE, 1842.

Mr. Abraham Van Nest has been appointed to give to the Synod any farther information that may be required.

All which is respectfully submitted,

CORNELIUS HEYER, *President.*

ABRAHAM VAN NEST,  
W. B. CROSBY,  
JOHN KNOX, } *Directors.*

ISAAC YOUNG, *Treasurer.*

*New-York, 31st May, 1842.*

## TREASURER'S ANNUAL ACCOUNT.

*The General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church,  
in account with ISAAC YOUNG, their Treasurer.*

		DR.	
1841			
June	1	To cash paid Rev. Dr. Milledoler, one quarter's salary as professor in the Theological College, due this day,	\$393 75
	3	.. .. Rev. Dr. Cannon, one quarter's salary as professor in the Theological College, due 1st inst.	393 75
	7	.. .. John D. Keese, treasurer of the Board of Education, six months' interest on the invested scholarships, \$23,451 20, due 4th inst. \$820 79 and balance of last account as rendered,	36 00
			856 79
	10	.. .. Isaac Young, treasurer, one year's salary, due this day, \$250 00 Postage and discount on uncurrent notes paid for General Synod during the past year, 5 13 And for the widows' fund, during the same period, 16 33	271 46
		.. .. Peter Spader, sundry bills for materials for, and repairs to, Rutgers College, \$321 95 Deduct amount agreed to be paid by the trustees of the college, 20 32	301 63
	15	.. .. Rev. Dr. M'Clelland, one quarter's salary as professor in the Theological Seminary, due 1st inst.	437 50
	18	.. .. For attendance and stationary, for General Synod at their session at Albany this month,	24 30
	23	.. .. Rev. Ransford Wells, disbursements, &c. by order of the Board of Superintendents of the Theological College,	7 50
		.. .. Rev. G. I. Garretson, his subscription to the widows' fund withdrawn,	20 00
July	9	.. .. For attendance on the Board of Superintendents, at their sessions in July, 1840, and May, 1841,	4 50
		.. .. The expenses of Rev. Dr. DeWitt, delegate to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, at Philadelphia, in the month of May last,	12 00
		Carried forward,	\$2723 18

1841		DR.		
		Brought forward,		\$2723 18
July	15	" " The expenses of the committee appointed by General Synod to meet at New-Brunswick on the professorate, viz.—		
		Rev. John Garretson,	\$8 00	
		" Andrew Yates, D. D.	8 00	
		" Benjamin C. Taylor,	5 25	
				21 25
Aug	11	" " Thos. R. Mercein, Jr. for printing the Minutes of General Synod for June, 1841, paper, binding, &c.		255 49
		" " Peter Spader, treasurer, &c., one year's interest on Henry Rutgers' donation of \$5,000 to Rutgers College, due 20th June last,		300 00
	12	" " Rev. Ransford Wells, stated clerk, expenses of the meeting of the Superintendents of the Theological College at New-Brunswick, 13th July last,		8 25
	20	" " Rev. James Lillie, his subscription to the widows' fund withdrawn,		40 00
	28	" " For this amount of stock of the city of New-York, bearing interest at six per cent. belonging to the widows' fund,		1500 00
Sept	4	" " Rev. Dr. Cannon, one quarter's salary as professor in the Theological College, due 1st inst.,		393 75
	9	" " For engrossing the Minutes of the Board of Corporation, from June, 1838, to June, 1840,		7 95
	11	" " Henry Solomon, for repairs, &c. to Rutgers College,		177 82
	13	" " Thomas P. Tinslay, door-keeper, for attendance on General Synod, &c. at their extra session 11th inst.,		8 00
	14	" " Rev. Dr. Milledoler, one quarter's salary as professor in the Theological College, due 1st inst.,		393 75
	20	" " Rev. R. Ormiston Currie, his subscription to widows' fund withdrawn		40 00
	24	" " Rev. Dr. M'Clelland, one quarter's salary as professor in the Theological College, due 1st inst.,		437 50
Oct	26	" " Thos. R. Mercein, Jr. for printing the Minutes of the extra session of General Synod in September last, paper, binding, &c.		53 00
	27	" " The travelling expenses of the delegation to the General Synod of the German Reformed Church at Reading, Penn., 21st inst., viz.—		
		Rev. Douw Van Olinda,	\$18 00	
		" Richard Sluyter,	21 87	
				39 87
	28	" " The door-keeper of General Synod, for attendance, &c. at their extra session, 20th inst.		4 00
		Carried forward,		\$64 03 81

1841		DR.		
		Brought forward,		\$6403 81
Nov.	2	.. .. Rev. James Romeyn, his travelling expenses to convey the call of Synod to Rev. Dr. Ludlow, &c.		13 19
	16	.. .. John D. Keese, treasurer of the Board of Education, on account of the interest on the invested Scholarships, due 4th December next,		500 00
Dec.	2	.. .. Rev. Dr. Cannon, one quarter's salary as professor in the Theological College, due 1st inst.		393 75
	6	.. .. John D. Keese, treasurer Board of Education, the balance of six months' interest on the invested Scholarships, due 4th inst.		320 79
	10	.. .. The Reformed Dutch Church in Broome street, New-York, loaned them on their note dated this day, with interest,		600 00
		.. .. Rev. Dr. M'Clelland, one quarter's salary as professor in the Theological College, due 1st inst.		437 50
1842				
Jan.	11	.. .. The Reformed Dutch Church in Broome street, New-York, loaned them on their bond and mortgage, with interest at seven per cent.,		1700 00
	13	.. .. Rev. Dr. Milledoler, his salary as professor in the Theological College to 14th December last, when his successor was inducted into office,		450 63
	14	.. .. Greenwich Insurance Company, premium of insurance for one year, \$8,000, on Rutgers College,		48 00
Feb.	8	.. .. Rev. Thomas M. Strong, his expenses in attending the meeting of a committee of General Synod at New-Brunswick, in July last.		3 50
Mar	2	.. .. Rev. Dr. Cannon, one quarter's salary as professor in the Theological College, due yesterday,		393 75
		.. .. Rev. Dr. Van Vranken in full of his salary as professor in the Theological College up to 1st inst.		328 12
	12	.. .. Rev. Dr. M'Clelland, one quarter's salary as professor in the Theological College, due 1st inst.		437 50
	26	.. .. John D. Keese, treasurer of the Board of Education, on account of interest on the invested Scholarships, due 4th June next,		300 00
Apr.	6	.. .. Peter Spader, amount of sundry bills for repairs &c. to Rutgers College,		79 74
May	23	.. .. Rev. Robert P. Lee, Jr. his travelling expenses as delegate to the Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church at Philadelphia, 18th inst.		13 00
	25	.. .. Peter Spader, treasurer, &c. dividends on ten shares of Bergen Turnpike stock, belonging to Rutgers College up to this day,		18 75
Carried forward,				12442 03

1842	DR.	
May 27	Brought forward, .. .. Rev. Thomas M. Strong, his salary for one year as stated clerk of General Synod, due 1st June next, \$100 00 And for postage paid by him during the same period, 1 40	12442 03     101 40
	.. .. The following clergymen, their expenses in attending the meeting of the Board of Super- intendents of the Theological College at New-Brunswick, New-Jersey, viz : Rev. John P. Knox, " Jacob D. Fonda, " John Lillie, " John A. Liddell, " Hugh M. Boyd, " Abraham J. Switz, " Isaac N. Wyckoff, D. D. " Richard D. Van Kleeck, " John C. Vandervoort, " James Romeyn, " J. H. Van Wagenen, " Isaac P. Labagh, twice, " Nicholas I. Marselus, " Ransford Wells,	9 37 9 00 10 00 28 25 6 26 10 00 9 75 10 00 9 50 6 96 6 12 4 50 3 00 3 00
	To balance carried to new account,	3473 82
		<u>\$16142 96</u>

		CR.		
1841				
May	31	By balance brought from account rendered this day,	\$2866	29
June	1	" Cash received, one years interest on bond for 5,000, due 8th December last,	300	00
		" " of Rev. M. W. Dwight, questor, for Minutes of General Synod furnished to the Classis of Long-Island,	23	75
		" " of Rev. John Gray, collected for the widows' fund in the Reformed Dutch Churches at—		
		Nassau,	\$12	25
		Greenbush,	14	00
		Ghent,	17	00
		Stuyvesant,	30	45
		Blooming-Grove,	20	00
		Schodack,	40	39
			134	09
		" " of Rev. Charles Jukes, collected for the widows' fund in the Reformed Dutch Churches at—		
		Caughnawaga,	\$9	07
		Curry-Town,	10	53
		Mapletown,	10	26
		Bowmans Creek,	5	25
			35	11
		" " for six months' interest on bonds for \$10,000, due 22d May last,	360	00
	3	" " of Rev. Dr. Wyckoff, collected for the widows' fund in the Reformed Dutch Churches at—		
		West-Troy,	\$38	40
		Bethlehem and Jerusalem,	6	00
		1st Ref. Dutch Church in Albany,	78	03
		2d " " " " \$54	07	
		thank-offer'g fm. a member,	50	00
			104	07
			226	50
	4	" " six months' interest on bond for \$4,000, due this day,	140	00
	5	" " six months' interest on bond for \$2,500, due 26th April last,	87	50
	18	" " of Rev. D. A. Jones, questor, for Minutes of General Synod furnished to the Classis of Washington,	6	50
		" " of Rev. Dr. Van Vechten, questor, for Minutes of General Synod furnished to the Classis of Schenectady,	5	00
		" " of Rev. Dr. Wyckoff, questor, for Minutes of General Synod furnished to the Classis of Albany,	10	75
		" " Rev. J. L. Zabriskie, questor, for Minutes of General Synod furnished to the Classis of New-Brunswick,	26	54
	21	" " of Rev. John H. Pitcher, collected for the widows' fund in the churches at—		
		Saratoga,	\$13	00
		Schaghticoke,	12	53
			25	53
		Carried forward,	\$4237	56

1841		CR.	
		Brought forward,	\$4237 56
June	29	By cash rec'd, six months' interest on three bonds of the Collegiate Dutch Church, New-York, two for \$5,000 each, and one for \$4,000,	420 00
July	23	" " of Rev. Richard D. Van Kleeck, questor, for Minutes of General Synod furnished to the Classis of Schoharie,	17 25
Aug	5	" " for a dividend on 23 shares of Bergen Turnpike stock,	11 50
	10	" " for six months' interest on bonds for \$8,000, due 8th July last,	280 00
	11	" " of Peter Spader, treasurer, &c. for the balance of cash in his hands, due to the professoral fund of the Theological College, on the 1st June last,	173 85
	16	" " six months' interest on three bonds of the Collegiate Dutch Churches, New-York, for \$14,000,	420 00
	24	" " six months' interest on bond for \$3,600, due 30th June last,	126 00
Oct.	20	" " of Rev. G. C. Schenck, questor of the Classis of Passaic, for Minutes of General Synod,	1 75
	28	" " of Samuel Smith, administrator &c. of Teunis Joralemon, deceased, in full, for payment of his subscription to the permanent fund of General Synod, \$500 00	
		Interest thereon, from 1st May, 1835, 194 13	694 13
Nov	1	" " six months' interest on bond for \$5,000, due this day,	175 00
	2	" " of Rev. Robert P. Lee, Jr. questor of the Classis of Orange, for Minutes of General Synod,	14 00
		" " six months' interest on bond for \$9,000, due 1st inst.,	315 00
	5	" " six months' interest on bond for \$8,500, due 3d October last,	297 50
	8	" " collected in the Reformed Dutch Church at Schoharie, for the widows' fund,	20 00
	9	" " six months' interest on bond for \$2,000, due 23d October last,	70 00
	10	" " six months' interest on bond for \$2,800, due 27th October last,	98 00
		" " six months' interest on bonds for \$8,300, due 6th inst.,	290 50
	17	" " collected in the Collegiate Dutch Church, New-York, for the widows' fund,	178 57
	18	" " six months' interest on bond for \$10,000, due 22d inst.,	350 00
	23	" " of Peter Spader, amount of James B. Dunham's bond belonging to the professoral fund, \$100 00	
		Interest, 3 00	
			103 00
		Carried forward,	\$8293 61

1841		CR.			
		Brought forward,		\$8293	61
Dec.	6	By cash rec'd six months' interest on bond for \$3,700, due 24th November last		129	50
		" " collected in the Reformed Dutch Church at New-Brunswick, for the widows' fund,		18	27
	8	" " six months' interest on bond for \$10,000, due 22d November last,		350	00
		" " six months' interest on bond for \$2,500, due 26th October last,		87	50
	22	" " of Peter Spader, on account of the bond of William Barricklo belonging to the professoral fund,		100	00
	24	" " of Abraham B. Cox and others, trustees of Jane Van Cortlandt, deceased, devised by her to General Synod for the benefit of the Theological College,		1000	00
	31	" " six months' interest on three bonds of the Collegiate Dutch Church, New-York, for \$14,000		420	00
1842	Jan. 11	" " of Reformed Dutch Church in Broome street, New-York, amount of their note to General Synod, dated 10th December last, for \$600, with interest,		603	50
	12	" " one year's interest on the bond of the Reformed Dutch Church in Broome street, New-York, for \$5,000, due 8th December last,		300	00
Feb.	8	" " for Minutes of General Synod furnished to the Classis of Paramus,		15	00
	12	" " of the Corporation of the City of New-York, interest on \$1,500 of their stock from 28th August last,		38	71
	14	" " six months' interest on bond for \$3,600, due 30th January last,		126	00
	16	" " for a dividend on 23 shares of Bergen Turnpike stock,		17	25
	21	" " on account of six months' interest on bond for \$2,500, due 26th April next,		50	00
	25	" " six months' interest on bond for \$8,000,		280	00
Mar	14	" " for Minutes of General Synod furnished to the Classis of Cayuga,		20	00
		" " for Minutes of General Synod, sold at the office of the Christian Intelligencer, and one copy of the Memoirs of Dr. Livingston,	\$12 37 1 00		
	15	" " of Rev. William Lockhead, collected in the Reformed Dutch Church at Cobleskill, for the widows' fund,		24	00
Apr.	10	" " six months' interest on bond for \$4,000, due 4th December last,		140	00
	16	" " of Rev. William S. Heyer, questor of the Classis of Poughkeepsie, for Minutes of General Synod,		40	00
	19	" " for Minutes of General Synod furnished to the South Classis of New-York,		7	00
Carried forward,				\$12073	71



1842	CR.		
		Brought forward,	12073 71
Apr. 22		By cash rec'd of John D. Keese, treasurer of the Board of Education, to complete the Cornell Scholarship, making it amount to \$2,000,	300 00
27	.. ..	of Rev. Dr. Marselus, stated clerk of the Classis of New-York, for Minutes of General Synod,	45 00
May 2	.. ..	for six months' interest on bond for \$5,000, due 1st inst.,	175 00
	.. ..	balance of six months' interest on bond for \$2,500, due 26th April last,	37 50
3	.. ..	for six months' interest on bond for \$9,000, due 1st inst.,	315 00
4	.. ..	six months' interest on bond for \$2,000, due 23d April last,	70 00
	.. ..	six months' interest on bond for \$8,500, due 3d April last,	297 50
	.. ..	of Rev. G. C. Schenck, questor of the Classis of Passaic, for Minutes of General Synod,	6 23
5	.. ..	for Minutes of General Synod furnished to the Classis of New-Brunswick,	17 50
6	.. ..	six months' interest on bonds for \$8,300, due this day,	290 50
7	.. ..	six months' interest on bond for \$2,800, due 27th April last,	98 00
9	.. ..	of Rev. A. H. Warner, questor of the Classis Bergen, for Minutes of General Synod,	19 00
19	.. ..	six months' interest on bond for \$10,000, due 22d inst.,	350 00
25	.. ..	of Rev. William S. Heyer, questor of the Classis of Poughkeepsie, for Minutes of General Synod,	50 00
	.. ..	of the following persons for interest on their subscriptions to the permanent fund of General Synod, due 1st May last,—	
		John Oothout,	30 00
		Catalina Oothout,	30 00
		Maria I. Kissam,	30 00
		James Suydam,	30 00
		Thomas C. Doremus,	30 00
		David L. Haight,	30 00
		Richard K. Haight,	30 00
		David H. Haight,	30 00
		David W. Wetmore,	30 00
		Stephen Van Rensselaer,	300 00
		Cornelius Duryee,	15 00
		Jacques Cortelyou, 5 years,	75 00
		Adrian Van Brunt, 3 years,	45 00
		Abraham Van Nest,	300 00
		Collegiate Dutch Church, New-York,	300 00
		Obadiah Holmes,	15 00
		Richard F. Carman,	30 00
		Leffert Lefferts,	30 00
		Francis Olinsted,	12 00
		Carried forward,	15536 96

		CR.	
1842	Brought forward,		15536 96
May 25	By cash rec'd of the following clergymen, their subscriptions to the widows' fund, viz.—		
	Rev. Edward H. May,	1841,	20 00
	.. Isaac N. Wyckoff, D. D.,	..	20 00
	.. Charles Whitehead,	1841, 1842,	40 00
	.. Alexander H. Warner,	1841,	20 00
	.. Isaac S. Demund,		20 00
	.. Brogun Hoff,		20 00
	.. Benjamin C. Taylor,		20 00
	.. Stephen H. Meeker, \$20 00, 1840,		
	Deduct collection in the Reformed Dutch Church at Bushwick for the fund, received 26th September, 1839, now appropriated by consistory to the payment of their pastor's subscription, 11 00		9 00
	Rev. John H. Van Wagenen,	1841,	20 00
	.. Richard D. Van Kleeck,	1840, 1841,	40 00
	.. John C. Vandervoort,	1839,	20 00
	.. Nicholas I. Marselus,	1840, 1841,	40 00
	.. Benjamin Bassler,	..	20 00
	.. William C. Brownlee, D. D.,	..	20 00
	.. Edwin Holmes,	..	20 00
	.. Samuel Robertson,		20 00
	.. Zachariah H. Kuypers, 1839, 1840,		
	{ 1841, and \$17 of 1842,		77 00
	.. Thomas Frazer,	1841,	20 00
	.. R. W. Knight,	..	20 00
	.. Joseph Wilson,	1839,	20 00
	.. William Lockhead,	1841,	20 00
	.. James Otterson,	1839,	20 00
	.. Alexander H. Warner,	1842,	20 00
	.. Isaac S. Demund,	..	20 00
	.. David A. Jones,		20 00
			\$16142 96
1842.	May 31	By balance carried to new account,	\$3473.82

ISAAC YOUNG,

Treasurer.

The subscribers, appointed a committee to examine the Treasurer's accounts, have examined the same with the vouchers by him exhibited, and find them correct, leaving a balance due to General Synod of three thousand four hundred and seventy-three dollars and eighty-two cents.

CORNS. HEYER, } Committee.  
W. B. CROSBY, }

New-York, 31st May, 1842.

## ANNUAL DIGEST, 1842.

The Board of Direction submit to General Synod their Annual Digest, as follows :

## FUNDS DEVOTED TO EDUCATION PURPOSES.

*The Van Benschoten Fund.*

The amount of this fund, as reported by Peter Spader, Treasurer of Rutgers College, and which is loaned upon bonds secured by mortgages upon property in the State of New-Jersey, amounted on the 1st April, 1842, to	\$20,000.00
Balance in his hands on that day,	2,024.78
Interest due on same fund, 1st May, 1842,	1,391.90
There has been paid to indigent students out of the interest of this fund, during the past year,	509.00

*Legacy of Miss Rebecca Knox.*

The amount of this fund is \$2,000, which is loaned on bond, secured by mortgage of property in the State of New-Jersey,	\$2,000.00
Interest due on this fund, on the 1st May, 1842,	120.00
Balance due Peter Spader, Treasurer, &c., on the 1st April, 1842,	222.89
There has been paid to indigent students, out of the interest of this fund, during the past year,	240.00

Amount of moneys invested by the Board of Direction, for Education purposes,	\$23,451.20
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## WIDOWS' FUND.

Amount of moneys invested by the Board of Direction, for the Widows' Fund,	\$6,500.00
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**JUNE, 1842.**

**69**

**Balance in the hands of the Treasurer belonging to  
this fund, \$1,050.10**

**PERMANENT PROFESSORAL FUND.**

**Under this head are included all the moneys which  
have been collected and invested on the subscriptions  
for the professorships, as well as the moneys formerly  
in the hands of the Trustees of Rutgers College,  
viz :**

<b>Loaned by the Board of Direction, secured by bonds and mortgages on real estate, &amp;c.,</b>	<b>\$66,648.80</b>
<b>Professoral Fund, formerly in the hands of the Trustees of Rutgers College, and transferred to General Synod, as per account of Peter Spader, rendered 1st June, 1841,</b>	<b>3,150.00</b>
<b>Twenty-three shares of Bergen Turnpike Stock, ten of which belong to Rutgers College, valued at</b>	<b>575.00</b>
<b>Notes given for subscriptions,</b>	<b>300.00</b>
<b>Rev. John F. Schermerhorn's note,</b>	<b>510.00</b>

**MINUTES OF GENERAL SYNOD.**

<b>There has been received for Minutes of General Synod, during the past year,</b>	<b>\$337.60</b>
<b>And there has been paid for printing, paper, &amp;c.,</b>	<b>308.49</b>

**CORNS. HEYER, *President.***

<b>ABM. VAN NEST, W. B. CROSBY, JOHN KNOX,</b>	<b>} <i>Directors.</i></b>
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**ISAAC YOUNG, *Treasurer.***

***New-York, 31st May, 1842.***

**The Committee on Nominations having reported, Synod proceed-  
ed to the election of the Board of Direction of the Corporation.**

On counting the ballots, it appeared that the following were chosen : Mr. Cornelius Heyer, President ; Messrs. Rev. John Knox, D. D., Abraham Van Nest, and William B. Crosby, Directors ; and Mr. Isaac Young, Treasurer.

## ARTICLE V.

### *Correspondence.*

The following report was received from the delegate to attend the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church.

To the Rev. the General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church—

The undersigned, your delegat to the Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church, respectfully reports, that he met with that body, which opened its sessions in the city of Philadelphia, on the 18th instant, and was received and treated with Christian courtesy and affection.

Your delegate parted from the members of that reverend body, under the full conviction, that in harmony of sentiment and purpose, in attachment to sound doctrine, and in persevering effort to spread at home and abroad the knowledge of the Gospel, the Reformed Presbyterian Church would compare favorably with any other branch of the church of Christ in this country.

ROBT. P. LEE, JR.

*Montgomery, May 30th, 1842.*

The following report was received from the delegate to attend the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church.

To the General Synod of the Reformed Dutch Church—

The undersigned, being duly notified that circumstances would prevent the attendance of his Primarius as corresponding delegate to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, fulfilled the duties of his appointment as Secundus, and begs leave to

report, that he was very kindly received by that body, and was much gratified at the spirit of harmony and devotion to the great interests of truth which were exhibited by its members. He would further state, that the wishes of this Synod, as expressed at their session of 1841, have been met by that body, and the terms of correspondence so altered, that in future, one minister shall constitute the mutual delegation. A certified copy of their resolution is herewith submitted.

M. W. DWIGHT.

*May 30th, 1842.*

The Rev. John N. McLeod, of the Reformed Presbyterian Church, appeared in Synod, and having produced testimonials of his appointment, took his seat as a corresponding delegate.

The Rev. Melancton W. Jacobus, of the Presbyterian Church, appeared in Synod, and having produced testimonials of his appointment, took his seat as a corresponding member.

The Rev. Joseph F. Berg and Elias Heiner, of the German Reformed Church, appeared in Synod, and having produced testimonials of their appointment, took their seats as corresponding members.

Ten copies of the Minutes of the Acts and Proceedings of the Synod of the German Reformed Church, for 1841, were presented by the delegates from that body, and laid on the table of Synod.

One of the corresponding delegates from the German Reformed Church, on taking leave of the Synod, having suggested that the time had arrived for considering the subject of a closer union between the two churches, it was

*Resolved*, That Rev. John Knox, D. D., Thomas E. Vermilye, D. D., and the Elder, Abraham Van Nest, be appointed a special committee to consider and report upon that subject.

The committee reported, and their report was adopted; and is as follows:

The committee, appointed upon a suggestion of the reverend delegates from the German Reformed Church in relation to a closer connexion between the two churches, respectfully report, that in their opinion, the subject is entitled to the most grave consideration of both bodies, and that it cannot be regarded as premature now to enter upon well chosen preliminary measures tending ultimately to secure so desirable a result.

The two churches are of common origin, closely connected in their history and in their sympathies, adhere, in part at least, to the same standards, and are identical in their forms of government. Their actual present condition and circumstances are such, that were a union effected upon sound principles and with mutual cordiality, both would be benefitted, and the result of their united effort upon the welfare of the community, would far exceed the sum of their separate efforts. The Dutch Reformed Church is confined within comparatively narrow geographical limits, is compact, and with her College and Theological Seminary in successful operation, together with her other institutions, has the prospect of a redundant ministry—whilst pursuing the tide of population towards the West with the means of salvation, she finds difficulties to encounter unknown to denominations larger and more wide spread. The German Reformed Church is numerous, extended, and increasing.—Her public institutions are comparatively in their infancy, and her ministry entirely too few in number to meet her urgent need.

For these and other reasons, it is obvious therefore that a carefully and cordially arranged union would prove mutually beneficial, and greatly subserve the cause of the Redeemer in our beloved land. Without, however, at present indulging in farther expressions of views, your committee unanimously recommend, that a committee be appointed by Synod to confer with any like committee appointed by the Synod of the German Reformed Church, on the subject of a closer connection of the two bodies—to report to this Synod at its next Stated Meeting.

JOHN KNOX, *Chairman.*

The Rev. James B. Hardenbergh, D.D. John Ludlow, D.D. John Knox, D. D. Thomas M. Strong, D. D., and the Elders, Theodore Frelinghuysen, Abraham Van Nest, and Cornelius L. Hardenbergh, were appointed the committee contemplated in the above report.

The following report was received from the delegate to the last meeting of the Synod of the German Reformed Church.

The undersigned, agreeably to his appointment, attended the annual session of the General Synod of the German Reformed Church, held in October last, and was most cordially received by the brethren of that sister Church. He was highly gratified in the evidence of the increasing prosperity of this important branch of the Reformed Church, which was developed in the course of their procedures.

The brethren regretted the non-attendance of their delegates to the last General Synod of our Church, being both detained by sickness, and manifested great anxiety to maintain the present relation existing between the churches. They also expressed a strong desire that the number of delegates to the respective Synods might be continued in future.

DOUW VAN OLINDA.

The Committee on Correspondence reported and their report was adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee on Correspondence beg leave to report, that from the minutes of corresponding bodies that have come into their hands, it appears the General Assembly at its late session agreed to alter the terms of correspondence between them in so far as the number of delegates from either body is concerned, so that in future one delegate only will be appointed: while the German Reformed Synod not having approved of this alteration, and having passed the following resolution, *Resolved*, That such an alteration as proposed is not in accordance with the wishes of this Synod, the number of our delegates to that body, as formerly, will be two, and the nominations of your committee have been made accordingly.

All which is respectfully submitted,

JAS. OTTERSON, *Chairman*.



The Committee on Correspondence having reported a double number of persons from whom to elect delegates to the corresponding churches, the Synod proceeded to the election, when the following were chosen :—

To the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church—Rev. Samuel B. How, D. D., *Primarius*, and the Rev. Cornelius C. Van Arsdale, *Secundus*.

To the General Synod of the German Reformed Church—Rev. William H. Campbell and Cornelius Van Cleef, *Primarii*, and the Rev. John Van Liew and C. L. Van Dyke, *Secundi*.

To the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church—Rev. John B. Steele, *Primarius*, and the Rev. Philip Duryea, D. D., *Secundus*.

## ARTICLE VI.

### *Synodical Reports on the State of the Churches.*

In conformity with the standing regulation, the Synod spent a part of the afternoon of the first day of the session in religious exercises, conducted agreeably to a plan previously reported by a committee of arrangements, consisting of the Rev. Samuel B. How, D. D., Cornelius Van Cleef, and the Elder, Michael Reed.

*Resolved*, That a Synodical prayer-meeting be held every morning during the present session, at 6 o'clock, in the Lecture Room of the Church in Franklin street in this city.

The Committee on the State of Religion reported, and their report was accepted, adopted, and is as follows :—

Report of the Committee on the State of Religion—

To the believer, nothing can be more interesting than a review of his personal Christian experience. That this is most important for his growth in grace and comfort amidst the duties and trials of life, is equally manifest. Hence, the frequent admonition given in the word of God, to careful self-examination and a devout observance of the ways of the Lord, and of his dealings with us—"Thou shalt

remember all the way which the Lord thy God hath brought thee," is the command of inspired truth. "Examine yourselves," enjoins the Apostle Paul, "whether ye be in the faith, prove yourselves."

As with believers, individually, so in their collective or organized capacity, as a church or branch of the Kingdom of Christ, it is exceedingly beneficial to look back over their seasons of grace and of the revelation of mercy, and seek to obtain becoming views of their relation to God, and of their obligations to their fellow-men; and how delightfully will they find themselves affected, oftentimes, by those expressions of regard and loving kindness on the part of the great Head of the Church, with which they have been so signally favored. Their gratitude is thus awakened and drawn forth into more vigorous exercise; hope is revived and strengthened, and new zeal imparted to them in the fulfilment of their high calling—and not only so, if there be any thing in Providence, adverse or afflicting to them, if they observe a degree of luke-warmness in the professed disciples of Christ, or that the ways of Zion mourn, because few come up to her solemn feasts, they will weep and plead in secret places, or standing between the porch and the altar, cry aloud, "spare us, O God of our salvation, cause Thy face to shine and we shall be saved."

Under these impressions, and with a desire to present as far as may be, from the materials furnished, a concise yet comprehensive view of the condition of the churches under the care of this Synod, your committee have carefully examined the documents submitted to them, and prepared the following summary.

And here it may be well to notice, what appears to have been for a long time, a matter of just complaint, and is again repeated in the reports that have come to your committee, that many of our consistories neglect sending to their respective classes an account of their state and prospects. Between thirty and forty churches within our limits have omitted to forward their statistics. "This is a crying evil," and should receive an immediate and full correction, especially as the good of souls and the honor of our Divine Master are so intimately concerned.

From the particular Synod of Albany, your committee are happy to learn, that although no powerful or general outpouring of the Spirit has fallen on any of the churches, yet all have enjoyed, more or less, "the dew of the Divine blessing." The churches of West-Troy, Union, and the Second Church of Bern, have had "more than a common measure of the influence of the Holy Spirit." The Classis of Cayuga reports, that the Lord has not left the churches without some tokens for good. The church of Ithaca records "a special communication of grace" during the past winter." So in the Classis of Orange, the church of Shawangunk is reported to have been blessed with "a special visitation of mercy." In the Classis of Rensselaer, the churches of Kinderhook, Greenbush and Clave-rack, have "shared in the effusions of Divine Grace." And the Classis of Ulster speaks of encouraging attention to Catechetical and Biblical instruction," and states that benevolent associations are formed in all the churches.

From the Particular Synod of New-York, we receive similar pleasing intelligence. The Classis of Bergen report that they find cause of great rejoicing in the rich displays of grace in the churches of Bergen and Bergen-Neck. "Under the stated ministry of the word," sinners have been made to cry out, "men and brethren what must we do to be saved?" The prayers of God's people have been answered, and the influences of the Holy Spirit "have elevated the tone of the piety of Christians and brought even the rebellious and stout-hearted in humility before God;" and the effect has been that in the church of Bergen, fifty-five persons have been admitted to communion, and in the church of Bergen-Neck, twenty-six on confession of faith. The Classis of Poughkeepsie informs us, that the condition of the churches under their care has seldom been more promising. In some of them God has appeared with power and grace—especially in those of Fish-kill and Glenham. The former presents a truly gratifying report of the work of the Lord during the past winter, "by which the cause of Christ has been greatly strengthened." About the same time the church at Glenham experienced an equally precious season of "refreshing from the presence of the Lord," for which they are led to exclaim with devout acknowledgements "what hath God wrought!"

In the congregation of Bedminster, within the Classis of New-Brunswick, "there has been and now is in progress, a special revival of religion." Their report states, that for the last six or eight months, a deep and solemn attention has been given to the preaching of the word. During the winter a more than ordinary interest in religion has been openly exhibited. "It was discovered that not less than fifty individuals were under exercise of mind, and an unusual concern on the part of many others *felt* in the welfare of their souls; numerous meetings for prayer have been held, and at church the attention and feeling gave clear proof that the Spirit of the Lord was in the midst of them. There is still the same deep attention to spiritual things manifest in the congregation."

In this connection it will be proper to observe the doings of God for us in the far West, that interesting part of our favored country. A Classis was duly organized there in November last, according to an act of the Particular Synod of New-York, at its spring session of 1841. The report from said classis represents an encouraging state of things within its bounds—Sabbath Schools, Bible and Catechetical classes have been established in all the churches, and a growing interest is manifested in their behalf. "This is literally a Missionary Classis, as the ministers belonging to it are missionaries of the Synod's Board of Missions, supplying, statedly, the churches where they are located and laboring, at times, in destitute places in their respective vicinities, where there may be a prospect of establishing congregations." In 1837, the first church was formed; and in 1838, the first minister located. In 1840, a second church was organized. In 1841, two additional missionaries were sent into the field, and a third church formed. One church edifice has been erected at an expense of about \$3,600; and another is to be erected the coming season, all which "should encourage the friends and patrons of western missions, in our reformed Zion," not only to perseverance in the good work to which they have put their hands, but to more prayer and greater exertions to build up the kingdom of Christ in this *vast* field for Christian enterprise.

From the churches in correspondence with us, whose delegates are on the floor of Synod, your committee learn, that they are at present

in very prosperous circumstances. The light of God's countenance is lifted upon them ; He is doing great things for them, whereof we are glad.

In view of these distinguished benefits, your committee feel that we are loudly called upon for praise and thanksgiving. We should cheerfully take the cup of salvation and call upon the name of the Lord, adoring and praising Him for His wonderful works. Union of thought and affection has hitherto been kindly preserved to us, spreading its savor, like the precious ointment upon the head, even Aaron's head, that went down to the skirts of his garments—as the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descended upon the mountains of Zion, for there the Lord commanded the blessing even life forevermore. The result is, harmony in counsel, and peace, to a delightful extent, is enjoyed throughout our churches. Vacancies have been happily filled and the truths of the Gospel faithfully dispensed ; meetings for prayer are well attended ; family visitation is regularly performed. The instruction of youth on the Sabbath, in the Catechism and directly from the Bible, appears to meet with increased attention. Pastors and consistories seem to allow it a stronger hold on their regard and services. Very encouraging accessions have been made to almost all the churches ; in the aggregate about twelve hundred. The benevolent operations of the day are in a measure responded to ; but not, we should observe, to the amount which might be expected and ought to be secured, among a people favored with such ample resources as the Dutch Church is known to possess. The cause of temperance heretofore so deservedly successful, has of late received a new impulse, penetrating the abodes of wretchedness, engaging the labors of those from whom of all others we had least expected such assistance. The poor inebriate, weak and besotted, having no hope within and viewed as desperate without, has been rescued from his low estate ; and disenthralled himself, he is now going forth, erect, and eloquent in the story of his own experience ; and multitudes participate with him in the enjoyment of the blessed fruit—their griefs are allayed, their tears of anguish dried up, and a new song is put into their mouth, that of praise to the Most High.

But glad and grateful as we feel in the remembrance of these things, there is much, alas, connected with them in the reports received by your committee, which should bring us to the very dust of self-abasement, and to humble confession and earnest supplication before the Lord. His Sabbath every where is by many disregarded, and his sanctuary neglected ; the orders of God's house are far from being observed as they should be ; the profanation of God's name is lamentably prevalent ; licentious principles are cherished and diffused abroad ; and against all the efforts of the wise and good to arrest the progress of intemperance, it is yet rushing on in its mad career, causing sorrow, desolation and death. Complaints are heard from various parts of our church of indifference among professing Christians to their religious obligations ; of undue regard to the fashions and follies of the world, and of the little accession that is made to the cause and communion of Christ. One classis, the Classis of Schenectady, observes that the comparative number of souls gained from the world in all the congregations under its care, during the year, cannot be viewed but with feelings of humiliation and sorrow. Another, the Classis of Washington, mourns over much reason for humiliation on the account of the too general neglect of Divine ordinances, the apparent worldly mindedness of some professors, and the comparative indifference to the claims of benevolence. Another, the Classis of Ulster, declares there is a great deal of formality, lukewarmness and omission of duty to be deplored within our bounds. And another, the Classis of Schoharie, states that the report comes up from almost all the churches, " religion is in a very low state." Brethren, can we receive these complaints without feelings of extreme regret, that any who have named the name of Christ, should so far forget Him and what He has done for them, as to dishonor their profession and thus mar their own comfort, and prove a stumbling block in the way of others ? Do we not feel exceedingly pained by the thought, that men immortal, yet defiled with sin and under the curse, with the Gospel of free grace in their hands and making known to them the way of life, should still reject its overtures and refuse compliance with the Divine will ? for how

shall they escape if they neglect so great salvation? Let us be stirred up to increased fervor and importunity in their behalf. The Lord's arm is not shortened that he cannot save; nor His ear heavy that He cannot hear.—Nay, with Him there is plenteous redemption, that He may be sought after. Hence His own gracious word is, call upon Me and I will answer you—open thy mouth wide and I will fill it with good.

Here then we would rest our hope. The word of God will not return to Him void. Let us be confirmed and urged on in the way of duty, by what He has said and already done in the fulfilment of His designs of mercy. His counsel shall stand and He will do all His pleasure, saying to the North give up, and to the South keep not back, bring my sons from far and my daughters from the ends of the earth. Let us then, heart and hand, unite and share, as may be, in this glorious work. People of God assert and maintain your high privilege as workers together with Him.—Can you doubt of ultimate triumph in that which the *all-wise*, the *Almighty*, has undertaking to accomplish? Be instant in season and out of season, in prayers more abundant, in zeal ardent and wisely directed. Let your benevolence pour forth its free offerings into the treasury of the Lord. Were the twenty-five thousand members now in the communion of our Church, to give a small part of their respective means, “according to what they have and not according to what they have not,” how bright would be the prospect before us, of lengthening our cords and strengthening our stakes.—And why not we would ask, why not thus contribute to what is so infinitely important? Remember the Lord loveth a cheerful giver. The gold and the silver are mine, saith the Lord. He giveth to us all, life and breath and all things, and surely if what we have in the way of enjoyment comes down from God, and is to be accounted for ere long to Him, who will render to every man according to his works, it becomes us to take heed, and employ our means and influence to the honor of His most holy name—and the more so, as so much is at present needed, humanly speaking, for sustaining and making suitably effectual those noble institutions under our care, for training up the dear

youth, and preparing them for their solemn duties in private and public life. What a nursery of good is provided for us in the Sabbath School, so highly esteemed not only by the pious, but by many also of the men of the world. Here the spring seed is sown—here the early dew and gentle rains are distilling their wholesome influence; and impressions are formed and principles adopted that are to tell on all future existence. Over fifteen thousand children of our own Church are growing up under this powerful agency—and shall we not with one mind and a liberal hand come up to the great work, “to the help of the Lord, to the help of the Lord against the mighty?” Let our Board of Education be promptly and efficiently sustained. Let our school of the prophets be in all proper ways remembered by us. Let the missions of our Church, foreign and domestic, be cherished and supported, as we would manifest the mind of Christ, and give glory to Him, who though rich, for our sakes became poor; who humbled Himself that we might be exalted; who endured the cross to gain us “the crown.”

Finally, brethren, whatever we do in the sphere assigned us, let us do quickly and with all our might. The time is short—our season of reckoning is near—death is thinning our ranks continually—lover and friend are put asunder—the strong and the aged are falling around us.—The young too are removed from our embrace; five hundred of our sacramental host are reported as having died the past year, nearly one half as many as have enrolled themselves with us during the same period. The armor-bearers are not exempted—another, and yet another, the beloved Rudy and the venerable Overbagh, have fallen by our side; one in hope, through life, in death they were not divided. From the church militant they have gone to the church triumphant above. See then that ye walk circumspectly, redeeming the time; endure as good soldiers of the cross of Christ. Be steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, for as much as ye know, that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.

Respectfully submitted,

S. H. MEEKER, *Chairman.*



## CLASSIS OF NEW-YORK.

Ministors without charge—Rev. C. C. Vermeule, G. Bourne, J. Mulligan, J. S. Ebaugh, James Buckham, A. J. Lebagh, Wm. Boyce,  
and Philip Milledoler, D. D.

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JUNE, 1842.

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SOUTH CLASSIS OF NEW-YORK.

## CLASSIS OF NEW-BRUNSWICK.

Ministers without charge—J. S. Mabon, J. J. Schultz, J. T. Beelman, J. F. Morris, S. Ostrander, P. Stryker and J. C. Van Liew.

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JUNE, 1842.

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CLASSIS OF BERGEN.

CLASSIS OF PASSAIC.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	Census.		Communicants.								Bapt. C. & B. C.			S. Schools.		Post Office Ad- dresses.	
		Number of Fam- ilies.	Total of the Con- gregation.	In communion per last Report.	UnConfession	Un Certificate	Rec'd	Dismissed.	Suspended.	Died.	Total in Commu- nion.	Infants.	Adults.	Number of Cate- chumens.	Number in Bible Instruction.	Number of Schools		Number of Scho- lars.
Stonehouse Plains, Pompton, Pompton Plains, Ponds, Preakness, Wyckoff, Fairfield, Montville, Little Falls,	Vacant, H. Doolittle, G. C. Schanck,  Vacant, J. Wilson, S. C. J. S. Lord, J. Wilson,	80 200 178  120 129 110	370 1150 980  600 800 550	27 149 136  132 110 32	3 2 2  2 9 1	3 3 2  2 1 1	       1	        1	2 2 1  5   31	29 147 138  134 118 31	17 12   12 4 1	        	95 12   50   	 15      	3 4   1 1 1	125 120   60 100 70	90      	Pompton, N. J. Pompton Plains, N. J.   Caldwell, N. J. Montville, "  

Minister without charge—Rev. Z. H. Kuypers.

# CLASSIS OF PARAMUS.

CHURCHES.	PASTOR	Communicants.				
		Census.	In Communion last Report.	Recd.	Suspended.	Total in Communion.
Tappan,	Isaac D. Cole,	167	5	2		3
Clarkstown,	Peter I. Quick,	149	5	4		3
Saddle River and } Parack,	John Manley,	114	1		1	1
Paramus,	W. Eltinge,	96	6			1
1st Church of Totowa,	E. Wiggins,	149	18	14	6	4
2d do	J. H. Duryea,	207	16	6	2	5
New-Hampstead } and Ramapo, }	P. Allen,	68	2	6	1	3
Aquacknont,	Wm. R. Bogi,	83	6	1		1
Warwick,	J. W. Stewart,	212	10	6	3	3
Nyack,	P. M. Brett, S	14	4	2		1
Permona,		24	1	6		1

Post-Office Ad.  
dresses.

Paterson, N. J.

JUNE, 1842.

• Report of two years.

Ministers without charge—John Robb, Wm. Gordon, stated supply at Flushing, and T. B. Gregory, pastor elect of Oyster Bay.

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CLASSIS OF PHILADELPHIA.

VOL. VI.

JUNE, 1942.

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Ministers without charge—Rev. J. Ludlow, D. D., Amzi Bobbit, and T. A. Ammerman, at present supplying the churches of  
Masonyuk and Roxborough. Leonida, Robert Clark.

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## CLASSIS OF POUGHKEEPSIE.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	Census.				Communicants.				Bapt. C. & B.C. S. Schools.				Post Office Address.
		Number of Families.	Total of the Congregation.	In Communion per Last Report.	Received.	Dismissed.	Suspended.	Died.	Total in Communion.	Number in the Bible Class.	Number of Schools.	Number of Scholars.	Average Number of Scholars.	
Poughkeepsie,	Alexander M. Mann,	230	1350		10	10	10	461		40	1	206	169	Poughkeepsie,
Fishkill,	Francis M. Kip, S. C.			128	2	3	3	144		49	1	53		Fishkill.
New-Hackensack,	Cornelius Van Ciesf,	120	700	209	7	1	2	207						New-Hackensack,
Hopewell,	Abraham Pelbunus,			12	2	2	6		4					Fishkill.
Fishkill Landing,	William S. Heyer,	70	200	150	4	2	3	151	6	1	80	60		Fishkill Landing.
Rhinebeck,	Brogan Hoff,													Rhinebeck.
Hyde Park,	John C. Cruickshank,	65	400	115	4	2	1	131	16	1	40	30		Hyde Park.
Lindithgow,	Jacob D. Fonda,													Livingston, Colum. Co.
Greenport,	Do.													Pine-Plains.
Greenbush,	Herman Vedder,													Upper Red Hook.
Taghanick,	Do.													Germanstown.
Red Hook,	John W. Ward,	50		87	2			1	89					Glenham.
Germanstown,	Vacant,													
Red Hook Landing,	Vacant,													
Glenham,	John G. Johnson,	53		41	29	6	4	2	70	3	12			

Ministers without charge—Rev. B. F. Thomson, Missionary to Borneo. Rev. Wm. Cruickshank, Licentiate, John H. Sheffield.

JUNE, 1942.

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CLASSIS OF ILLINOIS.

CLASSIS OF ALBANY.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	Census.		Communicants.							Bapt. C. & B.C.		S. Schools.		Post Office Ad- dresses.			
		Number of Fam- ilies.	Total of the Con- gregation.	In communion per last Report.	UnConfession	Rec'd On Certificate	Dismissed.	Suspended.	Died.	Total in Commu- nion.	Infants.	Adults.	Number of Cate- chumens.	Number in Bible Instruction.		Number of Schools	Number of Scho- lars.	Average Number of Scholars.
Ch. of Albany.	Duncan Kennedy,	264	1370	375	7	6	3		3	382	6	1			2	190	135	Albany.
2d do	I. N. Wyckoff, S.C.	285	1345	453	21	22	8	6	6	482	22	3	165	60	3	240	170	Albany,
3d do	Wm. H. Campbell,	75	305		5	11	3	1	2	140	4	1	100	75	1	120	100	Albany.
Bethlehem,	Vacant,																	
Jerusalem,	do																	
Coeymans,	do																	
New-Baltimore,	do																	
West Troy,	C. H. Gregory,	115	575	300	26	14	3	3	2	332	8	10		35	2	180	100	West Troy.
Cohoes,	G. McP. Myers,	40	200	28	3	4	2	7	3	32	6	4	32		1	30	20	Cohoes.
Union,	S. V. E. Westfall,	115	640	89	18	9		3	3	113	12	4						Bethlehem.
Salem,	Vacant,																	Salem.
Onisquethaw,	S. Vansantvoord,	60	407	60	9	4	1	1	1	72	3	2			1	40		
Westerlo,	J. A. H. Cornell,	100	500	133	28	1	6	1	1	155	1	16		30	3	120	110	Westerlo.
Bern,	J. Knieskern.	72	440	90	15		3	3	3	99	12	2						East Bern.

Ministers without charge—Rev. John M. Van Buren, and Reuben Porter.

# CLASSIS OF SCHENECTADY.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	Communicants.									
		Census.	In communion per last Report.		On Certificate.	Dismissed.	Suspended.	Died.	Total now in Communion.		
Schenectady,	J. Van Vechten,	200	1200	400	4	3	5	1	9	401	
Amity,	Asahel Bronson,	55	310	97	3	2	2		2	98	
1st Ch. Glenville,	Wilson Ingalls,	162	850	266	2	5	3		7	263	
2d Ch. Glenville,	Vacant,	135	673	170	1	2	1		2	167	
Holderburgh,	John B. Steele,	105		240	2	2	2	1	8	239	
Niskayuna,	H. A. Raymond,	138		240	2	7	2		5	244	
1st Ch. Rotterdam,	Vacant,	80	250	124	12	1	1		5	131	
2d Ch. Rotterdam,	John Nott,	65	300	93	1	3	4	1	5	89	
Hight,	Wm. Fitcher,										
Princeton,	Vacant,										

Post Office Ad. dresses.	Schenectady. Vlaeher's Ferry. Glenville. Schenectady. Guiderland Cent. Watervliet Centre. Schenectady. Calrose.
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Post Office Addresses.

JUNE, 1842.

Schenectady.  
Viascher's Ferry.  
Glenville.  
Schenectady.  
Guilderland Cent.  
Watervliet Centre.  
Schenectady.  
Cahoon.

Ministers without charge—Rev. A. Yates, J. A. Yates, Wm. P. Davis, Thos. Romeyn, R. J. Blair, A. J. Swin, E. C.



**CLASSIS OF SCHOHARIE.**

**JUNE, 1842.**

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**Ministers without charge---Rev. J. R. H. Hasbrouck, James E. Quaw, H. E. Waring, E. Doty, Missionary to Borneo.**

## CLASSIS OF MONTGOMERY.

Frankfort, Ephraim, Charlestown, Indian Castle, Union Church, Vacant. Ministers without charge--Rev. P. Weidman, I. S.  
Ketchum, D. Michael, D. Devos.

JUNE, 1842.

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CLASSIS OF ULSTER.



## CLASSIS OF ORANGE.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	Census.		Communicants.		Bapt., C. & B. C. S. Schools.				Post Office Ad- dresses.	
		Total	Rec'd	Suspended.	Died.	Total in Commu- nion.	Infants.	Adults.	Total Number of Scholars.		Average Number of Scholars.
Beres, Montgomery, Shawangunk, New Prospect, Deerpark, Newburgh, Miniskink, New Hurley, Walden, Walpeck, Bloomington, Ellenville, Fallsburgh, Wurtsborough, Warwaring,	J. B. Ten Eyck, Robert P. Lee, J., J. H. Bever, J. T. Demarest, C. C. Ellings, F. H. Vanderve J. Bookstaver Wm. Demarest, Vacant. Robert Pitts, Vacant. S. B. Ayres, Vacant. do Jas. Demarest,	50 37 91 47 77 77 77 77 77 77 77 77 77 77 77	1 2 2 3								

Ministors without charge—Rev. J. M. Scribner; Wm. Youngblood, Foreign Missionary; F. T. Drake, Candidate.

CLASSIS OF GREENE.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	Census.			Communicants.							Bapt. C. & B. C. S. Schools.			Post Office Ad- dresses.			
		Number of Fam- lies.	Total of the Con- gregation	In Communion per last Report.	UnConfession	Recd Un Certificate	Dismissed.	Suspended.	Died.	Total in Commu- nion.	Infants.	Adults.	Number of Cate- chumens.	Number in Bible Instruction.		Number of Schools	Number of Scho- lars.	Average Number of Scholars.
Catskill, Leeds, Kiskatom, 1st Ch. Coxsackie, 2d Ch. Coxsackie, Athens, Prattsville, Roxbury, Mooreville,	Vacant, do do J. Searle, W. Caboone, J. Watson, S. C. E. Depeu, Vacant, do	120 620 183 940 70 90 150 800			1 3 14 100 4 1 1	1 2 8 2 1 8	3 6 2 2 1		11 2 5	158 412 110 160 120	16 19 9 7 2	3 6 1			1 1 1 3	100 100 80 150	80 8 50 50	
																		Catskill. Leeds. Coxsackie. Coxsackie Landing. Athens. Prattsville.

JUNE, 1842.

CLASSIS OF CAYUGA.—NO REPORT.

CLASSIS OF WASHINGTON.

Minister without charge—Rev. Hugh M. Boyd.

# SUMMARY VIEW OF THE REFORMED PROTESTANT DUTCH CHURCH, FOR 1842.

CLASSES.	Churches.	Ministers.	Candidates.	Students.	Number of Families.	Total of Congregations.	Received.		Total of Communi- cants.	Baptized.		Number of Catechu- mens.	Number in Biblical Instruction.	Number of Sabbath Schools.	Number of Scholars.	STATED CLERKS.	
							On Confession.	On Certificate.		Infants.	Adults.						
New-York,	18	23			1295	5735	150	158	2670	183	26	439	182	17	1469	Rev. N. I. Marselus.	
South Classis of New-York,	7	8			806	3815	91	75	1310	137	11	200	215	9	1060	" S. H. Meeker.	
New-Brunswick,	14	20			1304	4720	98	48	2336	185	13	675	464	24	1072	" A. M. Marselus.	
Berg'n,	9	7			966	4903	108	49	1027	115	11	425	345	13	999	" B. C. Taylor.	
Paramus,	13	10			1437	6941	84	44	1543	120	1	394	156	8	473	" P. M. Brett.	
Long-Island,	16	14			1230	6090	80	76	1219	167	11	420	277	23	1283	" R. Ormiston Currier.	
Philadelphia,	13	12	1		1350	6910	106	41	2063	117	24	435	445	29	1870	" J. R. Talmage.	
Poughkeepsie,	15	13	1		588	2550	58	23	1243	65	36	108	89	5	379	" F. M. Kip.	
Passaic,	9	6			817	4450	11	8	597	46		157	15	10	475	" J. Wilson.	
Illinois.	3	3			50	311		16	50	7		50	43	3	98	" G. G. Sill.	
Albany,	14	11			1126	5782	132	71	1807	74	39	297	200	13	920	" I. N. Wyckoff, D.D.	
Rensselaer,	11	9			535	3260	105	20	231	48	24					" A. N. Kittle.	
Ulster,	16	13			1404	7055	108	43	1579	156	8	340	273	20	738	" C. L. Van Dyke.	
Washington,	11	9			561	2160	31	33	707	24	11	52	60	10	460	" J. H. Pitcher.	
Montgomery,	23	16			788	3790	52	6	764	89	1	6	93	7	285	" S. Van Vechten.	
Schoharie,	11	9			609	2929	8	9	743	56	3	55	16	13	345	" R. D. Van Kleeck.	
Schenectady,	10	13			940	3593	26	24	1631	90	4	135	180	19	760	" A. J. Swits.	
Cayuga,																	
Orange,	15	13	1		1025	2260	76	54	1278	126	20	403	360	15	397	" J. B. Ten Eyck.	
Greene,	9	6			613	2360	28	19	960	53	10			6	430	" J. Watson.	
	227	215	3	37	17444	79614	1385	822	22758	1868	253	4591	3413	244	13613		

JUNE, 1842.

## ARTICLE VII.

*Synodical References.*

The Committee on Synodical Minutes reported, and their report was adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee on Synodical Minutes respectfully report,—That they find on the Minutes of the Particular Synod of New-York, page 25, “A reference from the Classis of New-Brunswick, that the General Synod be requested to inquire into the expediency of dissolving the connection at present existing between the Board of Foreign Missions of the Reformed Dutch Church and the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, and if expedient to originate such measures as will lead to a dissolution of said connexion.” And also, a recommendation of Mr. Wm. Van Norwick, as a suitable person to receive aid from the Board of Education.

On the Minutes of the Particular Synod of Albany, they find, page 6, a recommendation of Messrs. John W. Heermance and Barnard S. Schoonover, for aid from the funds of the Church, in pursuing a course of study preparatory to the ministry.

On page 19, notice of an appeal by Mr. Simeon D. Robison from the decision of the particular Synod of Albany, confirming his suspension from the communion for his marriage with his deceased wife's sister.

On the Minutes of General Synod, page 505, they find a reference “on the subject of the manner of dealing with the baptized members of the Church,” to a special committee, with directions to report at this meeting of Synod.

Respectfully submitted,

FRANCIS M. KIP, *Chairman.*

*Resolved,* That so much of the above report as relates to the expediency of dissolving the connection now existing between the General Synod and the A. B. C. F. M., be laid on the table.

*Resolved*, That so much of the above report as relates to the applications for aid from the funds of the Synod, be referred to the Committee on Education.

*Resolved*, That so much as relates to the appeal of Mr. Simeon D. Robison, be referred to the Committee on Overtures and Judicial Business.

*Resolved*, That so much as relates to the report of the committee on the subject of the discipline of baptized members of the Church, be laid upon the table.

The Committee on Overtures and Judicial Business reported, and their report was accepted, adopted, and is as follows :

The Committee on Overtures and Judicial Business, beg leave to report, that they have examined the documents in the case of Simeon D. Robison, and find that the case is regularly brought before Synod by an appeal from a decision of the Particular Synod of Albany, May 1842.

The papers will be presented in the order of proceeding.

1. Record in the case of the Particular Synod of Albany, page 19.
2. Appeal and reasons of appeal.
3. Extract from Minutes of Consistory.

JOHN VAN LIEW, *Chairman*.

#### ARTICLE VIII.

##### *Synodical Appeals.*

Synod took up the appeal of Mr. Simeon D. Robison from the decision of the Particular Synod of Albany, not sustaining his appeal from the decision of the Classis of Ulster, confirming the act of the Consistory of the Church of Marbletown, refusing to grant him a certificate of his dismissal from the church, he having been suspended from the communion for his marriage with his deceased

wife's sister, and his appeal from this act having been sustained by the Particular Synod of Albany in 1841.

The President announced that the Synod was about to proceed to the consideration of judicial business, and enjoined upon the members to recollect and regard their character as judges of the highest court of Jesus Christ on earth, known to the Constitution of the Reformed Dutch Church.

The Rev. James Murphy, D. D., was appointed counsel for Mr. Robison.

The Synod considered the appeal in the following order.

1. The sentence appealed from was read.
2. The appeal and reasons of appeal, were read.
3. The documents in the case were read in the order prescribed by the Committee on Overtures and Judicial Business.
4. The appellant was heard in support of his appeal by his counsel; and the Consistory of the Church of Marbletown, by the Rev. Cornelius L. Van Dyke.
5. The appellant was heard in reply by his counsel.

The parties having withdrawn, the Synod proceeded to deliberate and decide.

The roll was called, and the opinions of the members expressed. Whereupon the following motion was made and seconded.

*Resolved*, That the appeal be sustained.

The question being taken upon this resolution, excluding those who had voted in the case either in the Classis or the Particular Synod, it was decided in the *affirmative*.

The *ayes* and *nays* were ordered to be recorded, and are as follows:

AYES.

S. Bloomfield,  
S. H. Meeker,  
F. F. Cornell,  
G. Dubois,

P. Sandford,  
J. Gray,  
A. V. V. Eltinge,  
C. Gates,

G. G. Nevius,  
I. C. Boice,  
S. Terhune,  
C. C. Van Arsdale,  
M. Reed,  
F. M. Kip,  
A. M. Mann,  
J. Vanderbilt,  
H. Doolittle,  
J. Wilson,  
D. N. Jacobus,  
J. M. Ryerson,

B. Van Zandt,  
W. Turk,  
D. Dyer,  
P. Ball,  
A. Bronson,  
J. A. Yates,  
E. O. Van Woert,  
W. Gray,  
B. Bassler,  
W. Houston,  
R. Ostrander,  
G. Schenck,—32.

## NAYS.

J. Knox,  
J. Hardenbergh,  
A. Van Nest,  
S. B. How,  
J. Otterson,  
C. Latourette,  
C. W. Van Horn,  
P. Duryee,  
A. H. Warner,  
W. R. Gordon,  
W. H. Van Doren,  
E. Hubbard,

C. Van Cleef,  
W. H. Campbell,  
J. A. H. Cornell,  
W. C. Miller,  
A. Elmendorf,  
J. H. Pitcher,  
A. B. Chittenden,  
R. D. Van Kleeck,  
J. B. Steele,  
J. D. Ogsbury,  
J. Watson,  
J. Romeyn,—24.

The Rev. W. Demarest, and the Elder Henry H. Banta, were excused from voting.

*Resolved*, That the Rev. C. C. Van Arsdale, John A. Yates, D. D. and F. F. Cornell, and the Elders, George G. Nevins and Smith Bloomfield, be appointed a committee to make a brief statement of the grounds upon which this appeal is sustained.

The committee reported, and the report was accepted, ordered to be entered upon the Minutes, and is as follows :



The General Synod in sustaining the above appeal, do not consider the merits of the question respecting the marriage of a "deceased wife's sister," as in any manner affected by their decision. The brief statement of the case is that the Consistory of the Church in Marbletown having suspended a member for forming this relation, he appealed to Classis, the Classis decided against the appellant. He then appealed to the Particular Synod of Albany; that Synod sustained his appeal. Whether the Particular Synod was right in this decision or not, is not now the question considered—but, according to the Constitution of our Church, by that decision, he was restored to the rights and privileges of church membership, and was entitled, if he so desired, to a certificate of dismissal. The resolution of General Synod at its subsequent meeting relative to the case of a person suspended for the marriage of a deceased wife's sister, requiring that every inferior judicatory is bound to act under the laws of the Church, inasmuch as it was not elicited by any appeal, either by the Consistory or the Classis by whom the appellant had been condemned, from the decision of the Particular Synod; the decision of that Particular Synod in this case, still remained unimpaired by it. The member therefore having been restored by Particular Synod, and no appeal having been taken from that decision, was still entitled to his certificate of dismissal. If the subsequent act of the General Synod is thought to have any direct bearing on this case, it must be as a rebuke to the Particular Synod in sustaining the appeal—but not as subjecting the appellant to a second trial for the same offence, especially in the irregular and unconstitutional mode pursued.

Respectfully submitted,

C. C. VANARSDALE, *Chairman.*

*Resolved,* That the Consistory of the Reformed Dutch Church of Marbletown, be directed to give such certificate to Mr. S. D. Robinson, as required by the Constitution of the Church, Chapter 2, Article II, Section 9.

## ARTICLE IX.

*Church Government.*

*Resolved*, That the committee on the subject of the manner of dealing with the baptized members of the Church, be discharged.

## ARTICLE X.

*Doctrines and Morals.*

*Whereas*, this Synod in deciding upon the case of the appeal of Mr. S. D. Robison, distinctly disclaim any intention of interfering with the rule of the Church, which prohibits marriage with a deceased wife's sister, whilst discipline in actual cases now existing may for the present be suspended, it is hereby solemnly enjoined upon all the members of the Reformed Dutch Church, to abstain from such connexion ; and upon all the ministers under the control of Synod, to abstain from officiating in the marriage with a deceased wife's sister.

But, *whereas*, honest doubts are entertained by some intelligent and pious minds, of the scriptural authority of the existing rule of the Church on this subject, therefore,

*Resolved*, That the subject be referred again to the several classes, to be by them reviewed and considered, and that they be directed to report their decisions thereon, with the reasons for such decisions, to the General Synod, at its next stated meeting.

*Resolved*, That in order to secure a more certain and thorough investigation of the subject, the several classes be requested during their approaching fall sessions, to refer it to committees, whose duty it shall be to report thereon to their respective classes, at their meetings in the spring of 1843.

The *ayes* and *nays* being called for, they were taken, and are as follows :

## AYES.

J. B. Hardenbergh,  
J. Knox,

J. G. Johnson,  
J. S. Lord,

A. Van Nest,  
 F. F. Cornell,  
 S. B. How,  
 J. Otterson,  
 J. Garretson,  
 C. W. Van Horn,  
 P. Duryee,  
 A. H. Warner,  
 J. H. Duryee,  
 I. D. Cole,  
 J. A. Baldwin,  
 W. R. Gordon,  
 W. H. Van Doren,  
 E. Hubbard,  
 G. Vreerebome,  
 C. Van Cleef,

D. N. Jacobus,  
 W. H. Campbell,  
 J. A. H. Cornell,  
 A. Elmendorf,  
 C. L. Van Dyke,  
 J. H. Pitcher,  
 S. Bruyn,  
 A. B. Chittenden,  
 R. D. Van Kleeck,  
 J. B. Steele,  
 W. Gray,  
 W. Demarest,  
 J. Watson,  
 J. Romeyn,  
 W. Knight.—35.

## NAYS.

T. E. Vermilye,  
 S. Bloomfield,  
 P. Sharpe,  
 J. M. Matthews,  
 M. S. Hutton,  
 H. P. Allen,  
 G. Dubois,  
 G. Schenck,  
 G. G. Nevius,  
 I. C. Boice,  
 S. Terhune,  
 C. C. Van Arsdale,  
 C. P. Wack,  
 M. Reed,  
 F. M. Kip,

H. Doolittle,  
 J. Wilson,  
 J. M. Ryerson,  
 O. H. Gregory,  
 J. Gray,  
 C. Gates,  
 B. Van Zandt,  
 D. Dyer,  
 J. Murphy,  
 A. Bronson,  
 J. A. Yates,  
 E. O. Van Woert,  
 B. Bassler,  
 R. Ostrander—29.

The Elder, William Turk, was excused from voting.

*Resolved*, That the classes, in acting upon the subject referred, relative to the marriage of a deceased wife's sister, consider and re-

port not only upon the rule but upon the nature and extent of discipline, and with their decisions and the reasons thereof; they report to the General Synod the *ayes* and *nays*.

#### ARTICLE XI.

##### *Customs and Usages.*

Nothing occurred.

#### ARTICLE XII.

##### *Schools and Christian Education.*

A communication was received from the chairman of the committee of arrangements, inviting the Synod to attend the anniversary of the General Synod's Board of Sabbath School Union of the Reformed Dutch Church, to be held on the afternoon of the second day of the session, and the meeting of the Union to be held in the evening of the same day. Whereupon, it was

*Resolved*, That the invitation be accepted, and that the Synod attend accordingly.

The following report was received from the Board of Education, which was read and referred to the Committee on Education :

The Board of Education of the Reformed Dutch Church respectfully report to General Synod, that the history of this charity during the past year has been unmarked by any event of peculiar interest.

The number of scholarships remain the same as reported last year, viz :—1, Van Rensselaer ; 2, Rutgers ; 3, William Patterson Van Rensselaer ; 4, Cornell ; 5, Wyckoff ; 6, Heyer ; 7, Margaret Burgess ; 8, John Clark ; 9, Isaac L. Kip ; 10, James Bogert, Jr. ; 11, Tannika Turk ; 12, Richard Cadmus. This last mentioned scholarship, however, is not at present available, as by resolution of Synod it was allowed to accumulate until it should reach the full amount of \$2,000

The number of young men now under our care is thirty-one ; and there are some applications for aid, on which the Board felt compelled to decline any action until their exhausted treasury shall be filled. The inability of the Board to pay with promptness the sums which they have appropriated to the beneficiaries, still remains a source of both pain and anxiety. The appeals which have been made to the churches on behalf of this cause have not met with the response for which we hoped—a general feeling of lukewarmness seems to pervade the entire church on the subject, which demands a change. Your Board feel that they are not at liberty to doubt that this is the cause of God. He has already owned it—has sustained it against prejudice, and in the midst of pecuniary embarrassment, and crowned it with his blessing. Under these circumstances, they have no misgivings as to the course which the Church ought to pursue ; they are persuaded that she ought to come forward and sustain promptly and liberally the young men now under her care, who have commenced their course of study under the assurance that the Church will provide for her own sons while they consecrate themselves to her and to the cause of her Lord.

The Board would not indeed present any plea to the churches on the ground that they have been compelled to decline receiving applicants for their bounty, for they are by no means satisfied that this is an actual evil, inasmuch as they suppose that the natural result of this will be the greater care in the selection of candidates, but they would urge by every consideration that the Board be enabled to meet, with promptness, engagements already made.

The following statement, prepared by our treasurer, will fully bear us out in the remarks which we have made, and exhibit in some degree the difficulty under which we have labored :—

The Treasurer of the Board of Education respectfully presents the following report, with a detailed statement of his account :

It will be seen by the account that the year has been one of great pecuniary embarrassment.

This is mainly owing to the great diminution in the receipts from the churches. Out of two hundred and forty churches named in

the statistical tables in the last annual report of the General Synod, only thirty-two churches have contributed anything to the funds.

The following list will shew which of the churches have contributed, and the amount received from each.

*Classis of New-York.*

Collegiate churches, collections,	\$381 99
Do. Female Education Society,	65 00
	<hr/> \$446 99
Church corner of Houston and Greene streets, Rev. I. S. Demund,	15 50
“ 21st street, Rev. Mr. May,	12 75
“ of Fordham, Rev. Dr. Van Pelt,	5 50

*South Classis of New-York.*

Church of Tompkinsville, Rev. J. E. Miller,	9 26
“ Bushwick, Rev. S. H. Meeker,	6 60
“ Washington Square,	32 32
South Church, Murray street, Rev. J. M. Macauley,	88 43

*Classis of New-Brunswick.*

Church of New-Brunswick,	13 35
“ Hillsboro,’	34 75
“ Spotswood,	8 50

*Classis of Bergen.*

Nothing received.

*Classis of Passaic.*

Church of Pompton Plains,	7 79
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*Classis of Paramus.*

Nothing received.

*Classis of Long-Island.*

Church of New-Utrecht,	120 00
“ Newtown,	18 00
“ Jamaica,	15 62
“ North-Hempstead,	7 50

*Classis of Philadelphia.*

Third Church of Philadelphia, Rev. Dr. Bethune,	288 89
Church of Harlingen, N. J.	120 00

*Classis of Albany.*

Church of Union,	17 89
"    Salem,	5 21

*Classis of Poughkeepsie.*

Church of Fishkill,	31 00
"    New-Hackensack,	14 50

*Classis of Schenectady.*

Church of Schenectady,	11 27
------------------------	-------

*Classis of Remselaer.*

Do. Schoharie.

Do. Montgomery.

Nothing received.

*Classis of Ulster.*

Church of Flatbush,	5 00
"    Guilford.	7 00
"    Marbletown,	18 31
"    Plattekill,	11 00

*Classis of Orange.*

Church of Shawangunk,	10 00
"    Minisink,	2 00

*Classis of Greene.*

Nothing received.

*Classis of Cayuga.*

Church of Geneva,	22 21
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*Classis of Washington.*

Church of Saratoga,	6 33
"    Wynantskill	5 25

The following churches have steadily furnished the funds for the support of their beneficiaries throughout the year, viz :

Church of Harlingen, New-Jersey, one beneficiary.

Church of New-Utrecht, Long-Island, one beneficiary.

Third Church of Philadelphia, two beneficiaries.

To give a more complete view of what is done by the Church in this cause, it may be proper to state, that we have been informed that the Middle Church of Albany under Dr. Wyckoff, is sustaining a beneficiary at the expense last year of \$218, but neither is this beneficiary nor the funds raised for his benefit under the control of your Board.

The footing of the columns of the annual account, without some explanation, would present a very deceptive view of the resources of the Board. It will be seen that the credit side of the account, amounts to \$5,575.77. To show the actual amount received from the contributions of churches, the donations of individuals, interest on scholarships, and the amount of loans, &c., the following condensed statement of the Treasurer's account is made.

## DR.

Payment of loans, . . . . .	\$1,833.85
Paid Treasurer of Synod to make Cornell Scholarship \$2,000, . . . . .	300.00
Paid to Beneficiaries, . . . . .	3,285.83
“ postage, . . . . .	5.24
“ loss on uncurrent money, . . . . .	8.80
Balance to new account, . . . . .	142.05
	<hr/>
	\$5,575.77
	<hr/>

## CR.

Contributions of churches, . . . . .	\$1,418.72
Donations of individuals, . . . . .	175.00
Interest on Scholarships, advanced on . . . . .	1,677.58
“ “ amount due in June, . . . . .	300.00
“ on Cornell Scholarship, . . . . .	386.82
Amount borrowed on notes of the Treasurer, . . . . .	1,600.00
Balance on hand at commencement of the year, . . . . .	17.65
	<hr/>
	\$5,575.77
	<hr/>



By the extended account, it will be seen that the Treasurer has constantly been obliged to anticipate the interest on the Scholarships, and repeatedly to obtain loans on his notes to the Bank of New-York, and to individuals. A glance at the payments to the beneficiaries will show that often, owing to the state of the funds, it was out of the power of the Treasurer to pay the young men in full quarterly payments. It will be seen that for the greater part of the time, they have been paid in much smaller sums, of fifteen, ten, and even five dollars, instead of twenty-five and thirty, the regular quarterly amounts. And even these payments as made, continually left those beneficiaries not under the care of churches, unpaid, for three to five months of appropriations past due.

It has been an exceedingly painful source of regret to the Treasurer, that he had it not in his power, with all his exertions, to pay the young men better ; and the churches need arousing to this benevolent work hereafter, or the Board must make few, if any new appropriations, until the demands on the treasury can be brought within its resources.

The Treasurer's note for five hundred dollars, for the loan of that amount, will fall due on the 8th of June, and will require the whole amount then to be received for interest on the scholarships, together with a large part of the balance on hand, to pay it.

The amount now due and unpaid to beneficiaries, is as follows :

Balance due on	March	account,	\$85
"	"	" April	" 90
"	"	" May	" 330
			<hr/>
			\$505
			<hr/>

To make these payments, it is obvious that money must be obtained on a new loan. This must necessarily be of a considerably larger amount to make these payments, and to pay the sums which will fall due in June and onward, unless the churches come up to their duty and aid us very efficiently, as no more interest can be expected until December, and it will then be all wanted, most probably, to pay off the contemplated loan.

The Board and the Synod will perceive that this is a very bad and perplexing state of affairs. The remedy lies with the consistory and benevolent individuals,—and if these could stand in the place of the Treasurer and witness the wants and hear the complaints of these young men, they would need no other stimulus to bring them up to the line of duty.

The Treasurer has been urged by his family to resign, on account of the feeble and uncertain state of his health, but he cannot find it in his heart to inflict the duties of this office on any friend, until they shall become less painful, by reason of more liberal aid to the funds.

In closing this report, the Treasurer respectfully presents through the Board, for the consideration of the Synod, the propriety of passing a resolution, that no annual payment under any of the scholarships, to any one individual, shall exceed the sum of one hundred and twenty dollars.

The amount fixed by the Synod to endow a scholarship, is two thousand dollars. This at seven per cent., will produce an income of one hundred and forty dollars; but this rate of interest cannot always be obtained. It was for this reason, that the maximum appropriation for beneficiaries has been fixed at one hundred and twenty dollars, which is six per cent. on two thousand dollars.

Some of the benevolent individuals who have endowed scholarships, have desired that the whole of the interest be applied to the beneficiary named by them. An inequality is thus induced which has a pernicious tendency, creating distinctions and jealousies among the young men, which certainly should be avoided.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN D. KEESE, *Treasurer, &c.*

*New-York, 31st May, A. D. 1842.*

In view of these facts, your Board cannot refrain from remarking that there is reason to fear that a wrong spirit pervades our churches on this subject, a spirit to which the attention of Synod ought to be directed.

Your Board are persuaded that the want of proper feeling in the Church is in a great measure owing to the wrong manner in which we have sought to advance this cause. Instead of appealing to the Church for her prayers in behalf of her own ministry ; instead of an earnest call upon pious parents to educate their sons with reference to the ministry ; instead of the warm appeal to pious young men *blessed with property*, to consecrate themselves to this work and thus pay the mighty debt they owe to Him who died for them, the whole energies of the Church seem to have been directed and *confined* to the single duty of encouraging the sons of indigence on whom the renewing spirit of holiness had descended, to consecrate themselves to the work of the ministry. Your Board would not indeed say, that thus an *undue* prominence was given to this particular part of the Church's duty, but they fear not to assert that the more important parts of this duty have been neglected ; and while they continue to ask for the necessary means to sustain this cause, they would bespeak above all else the prayers of the Church for the young men now in training in our Seminary, that they may be brought into the field thoroughly furnished for their great work.

Respectfully submitted,

M. S. HUTTON, *Corresponding Sec'ry.*

The Third Annual Report of the General Synod's Board of the Sabbath-school Union was received and read, and referred to the Committee on Education.

The Committee on Education reported, and their report was accepted, adopted, and is as follows :

The Committee on Education respectfully report, that they have given to the several subjects referred to them their earnest attention. From the report of the Board of Education, they learn that during the year several applications from young men have been declined on account of a want of funds, and that in meeting their actual engagements, the Board have been constantly embarrassed. That the zealous and very efficient treasurer of the Board has been left

to responsibilities and perplexities in his endeavors to relieve the beneficiaries from actual suffering, to which no individual charged with the gratuitous administration of their affairs ought to be subjected by the churches, whilst a large majority of the churches, even some entire classes, have done nothing during the whole year in sustaining this important cause.

Without wishing to interfere with any general plan of finance embracing all its benevolent interests which the Synod in its wisdom may see fit to adopt, your committee recommend, that Synod earnestly call upon all the churches who have failed to contribute to the Education Funds during the year, to make a collection at the earliest possible date, for the immediate relief of the treasury and its dependants.

The following young men—recommended as suitable persons for the reception of aid from the Education Funds, viz :—Anson Dubois, by the Classis of Greene ; Barnard S. Schoonhoven, by the Classis of Orange ; Wm. H. Van Nortwich, by the Classis of New-Brunswick ; John W. Heermance, by the Classis of Ulster ; Westen Taylor, by the Classis of Paramus, and Henry Eckle, by the Classis of Philadelphia—your committee recommend to the Board of Education to receive aid, as soon as their funds shall enable them to grant it. They also recommend that no annual allowance to a beneficiary shall exceed \$120.

And finally, they recommend J. V. H. Fonda to the trustees of Rutgers College to receive aid from the Van Benschoten Fund, he being duly presented by the Classis of New-Brunswick for this purpose. Any surplus of income from the Van Benschoten and Miss Knox Funds that may remain, your committee believe ought to be applied in payment of the tuition-fees of beneficiaries in Rutgers College, until the farther action of the Synod on the subject.

The report of the Sabbath-school Board has awakened in the minds of your committee a deep interest. Her *children* are the hope of the Church, and upon their proper early training in a great measure depends her destiny, Very much of this training has fallen into the hands of Sabbath-school teachers, and it cannot be

guarded with too much jealousy and care. Upon this subject, the Church sustains an immense responsibility. Her children are given her, that in her own bosom she may nurse them for Christ; and of her obligations in this respect, she cannot divest herself. We are no advocates for mere sectarianism, but we are bound to care for our own. It is when every family, every individual church, and every denomination, is faithful to itself and its own obligations, when our own vineyard is kept, that the cause of Christ at large shall flourish, the walls of Zion be built and compacted together, and the tribes of the Lord dwell together in harmony, and present an invincible front to every common foe.

In most of our concerns, we are acting, and acting wisely, upon this principle. We have our college, our school of the Prophets, our education and missionary establishments; and surely the training of our children ought to be the very last thing which we should consent to put out of our own hands, and beyond our own control. The impressions and associations of childhood are deep and enduring. Let the first concern of the Church be, that they are such as she would have them to be.

The Sabbath-school Board is of the Synod's own appointment, and at its entire control. The principles upon which it is organized, and the guards by which it is surrounded, are most salutary; and to be of controlling efficiency, it needs only the constantly cherishing influence of the labors and prayers and nurture of the whole Church in all its parts.

Your committee are fully sensible of the power and the virtue of long existing associations, and they can most kindly and affectionately appreciate the feelings of those churches and schools which have not hitherto united with our own Board. They have not a harsh word to utter, but they would entreat their brethren to inquire whether the time has not come when in this sacred cause we should be found as *one band*.

The Board have prosecuted their labors with diligence and success. The schools of about sixty churches are now connected with them, and it is fervently hoped that very soon all the schools of all

our churches will be so connected. They are diligently engaged in preparing elementary books for the use of the schools, and they ask the Synod for authority to prepare and publish a hymn-book.

In relation to this request of the Board, the committee recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That the subject of preparing a hymn-book for the use of the Sabbath-schools, be referred to a special committee, consisting of the Rev. John Knox, D. D., George W. Bethune, D. D., William H. Campbell, George H. Fisher, and Abraham Messler, and the Elders, Abraham Van Nest and John D. Keese ; and that they be instructed to prepare and report such a book at the next meeting of the general Synod.

All which is respectfully submitted,

JOHN KNOX, *Chair'n*.

The Committee on Nominations having reported, Synod proceeded to fill the places of those in the Board of Managers of the General Synod's Sabbath-school Union, whose term of service has expired. On counting the ballots, it appeared that the following were elected, viz : Rev. William C. Brownlee, D. D., James B. Hardenbergh, D. D., Thomas M. Strong, D. D., James Romeyn, George H. Fisher, Francis M. Kip, and Messrs. Thomas Earle, James Anderson, M. D., Bauman Lowe, Charles Van Wyck, William Mandeville, William Forrest, and John I. Brower.

The Committee on Nominations having reported, Synod proceeded to fill the places of those in the Board of Education, whose term of service has expired. On counting the ballots, it appeared that the following were chosen, viz :—Rev. Thomas De Witt, D. D., James B. Hardenburgh, D. D., and the Elder, Theodore Frelinghuysen.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to our churches to observe the annual concert of prayer, for the effusion of the Spirit on our colleges.

## ARTICLE XIII.

*Rutgers College.*

The following report was received from the Treasurer of Rutgers College, which was referred to the Committee on Education :—

To the General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church :

The Treasurer of Rutgers College, for the information of the Synod, reports, that the following young men have been aided from the Van Benschoten and Knox Funds, from 1st April, 1841, to 1st April 1842 :

R. H. Steele,	.	.	.	.	\$165
E. Vedder,	.	.	.	.	142
R. Willis,	.	.	.	.	120
A. B. Winfield,	.	.	.	.	120
C. Spaulding,	.	.	.	.	52
F. T. Drake,	.	.	.	.	30
J. Watson,	.	.	.	.	30
W. E. Turner,	.	.	.	.	30
G. McP. Myers,	.	.	.	.	30
A. C. Millspaugh,	.	.	.	.	30
					<hr/>
					\$749

There are at this time four young men on the funds, two of whom will leave here at the ensuing commencement, viz : Willis and Winfield.

Amount of the Van Benschoten Fund 1st April, 1842,	\$20,000 00
Balance in the hands of the treasurer,	2,024 78
Interest due 1st May, 1842,	1,391 90
Amount of the Knox Fund, 1st April, 1842,	2,000 00
Balance due the treasurer,	222 89
Interest due 1st May, 1842,	120 00

Respectfully submitted,

P. SPADER.

*New-Brunswick, June 1, 1842.*

The following report was received from the Board of Superintendents of Rutgers College, and referred to the Committee on the Professorate.

To the General Synod of the Reformed Dutch Church—

The Board of Superintendents of the General Synod, and of the Trustees of Rutgers College, in making their annual report to General Synod, beg leave respectfully to submit the following communication, which they have received from the President of the College :

To the Board of Superintendents of Rutgers College, the President respectfully reports—

That since his last annual report, the whole number of students who have been enrolled as members of the institution is 103. Of this number, the senior class, 20 in all, finished their course of study, and were admitted to the degree of Bachelor of Arts at the last commencement ; three have withdrawn from the present senior class upon their own application ; one from the junior class upon like application ; and five from the Sophomore class, of whom four were honorably dismissed upon their own request, and one by a vote of the faculty, for immoral conduct.

The number of students now actually enrolled is *seventy-four*, all of whom are in attendance except three. Of these, one is detained at home by protracted illness, and two by inability to pay their expenses here. These three young gentlemen have, however, intimated their intention to resume their studies at the beginning of the next collegiate year.

The students now enrolled are classed as follows :

Seniors,	.	.	.	.	.	20
Juniors,	.	.	.	.	.	20
Sophomores,	.	.	.	.	.	23
Freshmen,	.	.	.	.	.	11
						<hr/>
						74



With the single exception above alluded to, the conduct of the students since the last report has been satisfactory, and no discipline has been necessary beyond the requirements of a vigilant and parental solicitude on the part of the faculty. The *intermediate examination* required by the statutes, was held in February last, and the faculty refer to the members of the Board of Trustees who attended on that occasion, for the evidence of diligence on the part of a great majority of the students which was there exhibited. The President further reports, that all the members of the faculty have been in the actual and faithful discharge of their duties since his last communication, except the professors, to whom are assigned the subjects respectively of Moral Philosophy and the Evidences of Christianity. The late Professor of Moral Philosophy resigned his office during the last year, before he had entered upon the subject with the present senior class. His successor was excused by the Board of Trustees at a late meeting, for satisfactory reasons, from entering immediately upon the discharge of his duty in that department. In the meanwhile, this important and interesting subject has been in part under the care of the Professor of Languages, and in part under that of the President, in substitution of Political Economy. Assurances, however, are given by the Professor of Moral Philosophy, that he will be prepared to assume his appropriate duties at the beginning of the next term.

The Evidences of Christianity have not been attended to during the year, nor will they be for the future, unless some new provision is made by the proper authority on the subject. It is well known to the superintendents that the professor to whom this subject was assigned, claims an exemption from all services in the college, by virtue of his contract with the General Synod at the time of his original appointment to the office by that body.

As both the General Synod and the Board of Trustees are represented in your body, the President trusts he will be permitted, by a simple statement of facts occurring during his short administration here, to show how closely connected in interest the college and seminary are. Of the class of twenty gentlemen who graduated at

our commencement last summer, *one-half* are now pursuing theological studies in the seminary here. The present senior class consists of the same number, and will probably all be found worthy of the degree of Bachelor of Arts. - Eleven of this number have already intimated their intention to become Ministers of the Gospel, all of whom, except two, will prosecute their preparatory studies in the seminary, established here under the auspices and control of the General Synod. So great a source of supply to the seminary deserves the watchful regard of the Church, and in connection with other causes and influences which bind the two institutions so closely together, justifies the hope that the fostering care of the Synod will not be withheld or withdrawn. In no way can more efficient aid be extended to us by the Synod, than by a cautious and unyielding requirement in all their future appointments to professorships in the seminary, of the duties and services heretofore so ably and cheerfully rendered by the theological professors in the college. The united services of the two faculties, can alone carry out the designs of the founders of these institutions, or satisfy the just and reasonable expectations of their patrons.

Embarrassment and difficulty have heretofore existed in the case of beneficiaries, who presented themselves without any credentials or certificates from the body or society at whose charge they were to be educated. Instances have occurred in which students have gone through their entire course of study in this college without any recognition, expressed or implied, on the part of the society or its agent, at whose suggestion and at whose liability they were sent hither. This perplexity and occasional loss might be obviated by requiring the beneficiary, at the time of his admission, to exhibit to the treasurer a certificate of his appointment as such, from an acknowledged officer of the body by which he is sent here for education.

The necessity of adopting some measures relative to the library, to ensure greater care and preservation than the present system furnishes, has been repeatedly urged upon the Board of Trustees. The interest is a joint one between the Board and the Synod, and

the subject has been referred to a committee to recommend some plan that may be approved of by both parties. As no report has yet been submitted, the subject is now presented to you as deserving your notice and immediate action. It is feared that books are lost and injured to an extent far greater than is imagined by those who have not closely examined the matter. The frequent changes rendered necessary by the appointment as librarian of a member of the seminary, will always lead to loss and confusion. I would respectfully recommend the appointment of a permanent officer to superintend the library, and also the adoption of a rule expressly prohibiting the use of any volume belonging to the library as a text-book in the classes of either institution. The use of the library apartment, too, as a lecture room, interferes much with the due care and safety of the books and furniture. Both that room and the chapel are at present occupied as lecture rooms for want of other accommodations. It is hoped that the earliest opportunity will be embraced to furnish at least two more lecture rooms, so that those apartments may be used only for their appropriate purposes.

No return has been made to me by the rector of the grammar-school. It is, however, in a flourishing condition, and continues, under the management of the present rector, to deserve the commendation and protection of the trustees.

In conclusion, I would remind the superintendents, that by a resolution of the trustees, the *commencement* will hereafter be held on the *fourth Wednesday in July*, and that the fall term will open on the *first day of October*. The postponement of the commencement a week, ought perhaps to be formally communicated to the Synod, that the examination of the theological students and their vacation may be simultaneous with our own.

All which is respectfully submitted,

A. BRUYN HASBROUCK, *President*.

*Rutgers College, May 27th, 1842.*

The Board of Superintendents entirely concur in the sentiments of the above report, and would call the attention of Synod to the

points presented in it for their consideration. They would also respectfully submit to General Synod the propriety, since the money due to the college for the tuition-fees of the beneficiaries of the Board of Education has not been paid, of recommending to the churches to take up a collection to aid the college on some Sabbath during the year, as a compensation for the loss of such fees.

All which is respectfully submitted,

JOHN KNOX,	}	<i>Superintendents.</i>
JACOB J. JANEWAY,		
C. L. HARDENBURGH,		
SAMUEL B. HOW,		
ABM. VAN NEST,		
JAS. B. HARDENBERGH,		

Application was made for permission to cause a passage way to be constructed and a gate erected leading from the house occupied by the President of Rutgers College to the street in front of said house, which was referred to the Committee on the Professorate.

#### ARTICLE XIV.

##### *Professorate.*

The Committee on the Professorate reported, and their report was adopted, and is as follows :—

The Committee on the Professorate ask leave to report, and their report is as follows :

Your committee have examined the several reports of the different Boards, and find them all full and satisfactory, conveying to General Synod a clear view of their transactions. Your committee would notice them in detail, and give a brief analysis of the whole.

1. *Rutgers College.* Your committee find an ample report drawn up by the president of this important institution, and fully approved by the Board of Superintendents of the college. It appears by the

report, that there is a respectable number of students in the institution. The conduct of the students has been satisfactory, and their literary attainments respectable, with the exception of a single student.

Your committee have the pleasure of announcing to Synod the interesting information of the president, that nine of the graduating class have intimated their intention of entering the Theological Seminary at the commencement of the fall session, and two of pursuing their studies in other institutions.

The president and superintendents appear to feel deeply the importance of the aid of the theological faculty in the departments of Moral Philosophy and the Evidences of Christianity, and are of opinion that the large number of the young men who enter the school of theology, may be ascribed to the valuable labors of the divinity professors. The president and superintendents attach so much importance to this subject, as to recommend, in all future appointments to professorships in this seminary, "a cautious and unyielding requirement be made on such professors to discharge the duties and services heretofore so ably and cheerfully rendered by the theological professors in college;" and say further, "the united services of the two faculties can alone carry out the designs of the founders of this institution."

Some difficulties have hitherto existed in case of beneficiaries who have presented themselves without credentials of the societies at whose charge they were to be educated.

Your committee recommend the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That students so situated, be hereafter required to produce regular certificates from those societies who undertake to afford them support.

By the report, some new regulations appear to be necessary to secure proper care and attention to the library.

The President and Board of Superintendents recommend the appointment of a librarian, residing permanently at the institution: they also recommend the prohibition of the use of the books of the library as class-books in either of the institutions.

Your committee would recommend the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That a librarian be appointed by the Trustees of Rutgers College, and that a reasonable compensation be allowed therefor, to be paid in equal proportions by the General Synod and the trustees of the college.

The president and superintendents are of opinion, that the use of the library-room for a lecture-room is found to interfere much with the due care and safety of the books and furniture.

They express a very strong desire that suitable rooms may be provided for lecture-rooms, and the library-room and the chapel be left to their appropriate uses.

Your committee are not so far acquainted with the state of the funds as to recommend any plan, but recommend the following, viz :

*Resolved*, That the subject be referred to the Board of Corporation for their consideration, and to take such measures as they may judge proper.

They announce, for the information of Synod, that the commencement of the college will be held on the fourth Wednesday in July, in order that Synod may make such arrangement, with respect to the meeting of the Board of Superintendents, as Synod may judge proper.

Your committee recommend the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That the Board of Superintendents meet one week later in consequence of this change.

They further say, that the money due the college for the tuition-fees of the beneficiaries of the Board of Education has not been paid, and some order in the case is requested.

Your committee recommend the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That collections be taken up in all the churches, on or before the first of January next, in order to meet these deficiencies.

There is also a request to obtain permission to cause a passage-way to be constructed and a gate erected leading from the house

now occupied by the President of Rutgers College to the street in front of said house.

Your committee would recommend the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That permission be granted according to the request, during the pleasure of Synod.

2. *Board of Direction*. The duties of this Board are, as usual, well and faithfully performed. Their business appears to be so systematized that few details are necessary beyond the report, all the items of which will appear in the annual digest.

During the past year a legacy of \$1,000 has been paid to the Board by the executors of the estate of the late Mrs. Jane Van Cortland.

The Board exhibits for the present fund the usual securities of the funds, which appear to be entirely satisfactory.

3. The report of the *Board of Superintendents of the Theological School*.

The Board met on the 13th of July, 1841, and all the members were present except one, and arrangements were made according to the recommendation of General Synod, for fixing the time of the service of the members.

The senior class were examined particularly on their personal experience of piety, and their motives in entering the ministry, and the members of the class gave the Board entire satisfaction.

In view of the whole, your committee find abundant reason for gratitude to the great Head of the Church, for His blessing on the school of the prophets for the year which is past.

All which is respectfully submitted,

JAS. MURPHEY, *Chairman*.

Synod proceeded to fill the places of those of the first class in the Board of Superintendents whose term of service has expired. Nominations were received from the Classes of Schenectady and Montgomery, which were confirmed. A nomination was also received from the Classis of Illinois ; and one from the Classis of Ulster, in the place of the Rev. John Lillie, who has removed from

the bounds of that classis; and another from the Classis of Poughkeepsie, in the place of Rev. J. H. Van Wageningen, removed to the Classis of Ulster, which were confirmed.

It was referred to the Committee on Nominations to report double the number of persons from whom to choose members for the classes which have not nominated. The committee reported, and the election took place accordingly. The following are the persons chosen to fill the vacancies in the Board of Superintendents, viz:—Rev. Abraham H. Myers, Jacob Van Vechten, D. D., Abraham Polhemus, William Brush, Abraham D. Wilson, Horace Doolittle, James Abell, Cornelius C. Van Arsdale, and William H. Campbell.

#### ARTICLE XV.

##### *Students in Theology.*

Nothing occurred.

#### ARTICLE XVI.

##### *Church Visitations.*

Nothing occurred.

#### ARTICLE XVII.

##### *Prevailing Sins.*

Nothing occurred.

#### ARTICLE XVIII.

##### *Missions.*

The Tenth Annual Report of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church was received, read, and referred to the Committee on Missions.



A letter was received from the Treasurer of the A. B. C. F. M., transmitting an account of the expenses of the missionaries of the Reformed Dutch Church, for the year commencing July 1, 1840, and ending June 30, 1841, which was referred to the Committee on Missions.

The Eleventh Annual Report of the Board of Missions of the General Synod was received, read, and referred to the Committee on Missions.

The report of the Treasurer of the Board of Missions of the General Synod was received, and referred to the Committee on Missions.

The Treasurer of the Board of Foreign Missions submitted his report, which was referred to the Committee on Missions.

The Rev. Abraham Messler preached the annual missionary sermon before the Synod, in the church corner of Fourth street and LaFayette Place, on the evening of the fifth day of the session, from Isaiah lx. 1. "Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee."

A communication was received from the Rev. Mr. Quaw, which was referred to the Committee on Missions.

The Rev. Mr. Bingham of the Sandwich Island Mission, by permission addressed the Synod during a part of the afternoon of the sixth day of the session upon the subject of Foreign Missions.

The Committee on Missions reported, and their report was adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee on Missions beg leave respectfully to report—

From the statements of the Boards of Foreign and Domestic Missions, there is much to awaken gratitude and to encourage us to go forward with zeal in our efforts to extend the gospel, and also much to humble us and lead us to more fervent prayer for the blessing of the Lord on our labors.

*Foreign Missions.*—From the report of the Board of Foreign Missions, it appears that it has been judged important, in the existing

circumstances of our missionaries, to concentrate them at one station, until Providence shall open other fields for useful missionary labors. Pontianak, in Borneo, has been fixed on as that station ; and by the directions of the Prudential Committee of the A. B. C. F. M., Mr. and Mrs. Doty left Sambas where they had been before stationed, and Mr. and Mrs. Pohlman left Batavia and have joined Mr. and Mrs. Youngblood at Pontianak ; Mr. and Mrs. Thompson have left Batavia, and are probably now also at Pontianak. It is thought that this concentration of our missionaries will increase their influence, and afford opportunity for common counsels and plans for further efforts to extend the Gospel. They have established in that city a school for Malay children, under the superintendence of Mr. Youngblood, and a Chinese school under the superintendence of Mr. Pohlman. Messrs. Doty and Pohlman preach alternately in the Chinese language, and Mr. Youngblood preaches in the Malay language. Mr. Doty remarks, "that probably there is no other place in this region whence direct and concentrated effort will more extensively, though slowly, diffuse around. Pontianak will, we trust, become a radiating point, whence the light of life may, ere long, penetrate the darkest recesses of this now most dark island."

During the past year, Mr. and Mrs. Van Doren and Mr. Stryker arrived at Batavia. We regret to learn that Mr. Van Doren's health is so seriously impaired, that it is probable he is now on his return home ; and that Mr. and Mrs. Nevius have been compelled to leave Borneo for Signapore, on account of the ill health of Mrs. Nevius ; and unless her health should be greatly improved by this removal, they will also return home. Mr. Sheffield, late a student in our Theological Seminary, who had received an appointment as a foreign missionary, has been compelled, on account of his health, and by the advice of his physicians, wholly to relinquish that appointment.

Rev. W. H. Steele, who was a fellow-student with Mr. Sheffield in our seminary, and with him had received an appointment as a foreign missionary, has, during the past year, been ordained to the

work of the gospel ministry, and sailed for Batavia a few days since. Messrs. Wm. W. Halloway and John N. Schultz, of the senior class in our seminary, having offered themselves for the foreign missionary service, have been accepted by the Prudential Committee of the A. B.

Rev. David Abeel is at Macao, and with great earnestness solicits assistance in his missionary labors. He expresses his confidence that the vast empire of China will soon be thrown open for the entrance of missionaries, and strongly urges us to occupy that field of labor. Rev. D. Lindsey, of South Africa, has relinquished his missionary relation to us, having become a settled pastor, and being fully supported by the people among whom he has been laboring. He represents the field for missionary efforts in his neighborhood as extensive, and important, and very promising, and earnestly desires that our Church would send a few missionaries thither.

The restrictive measures imposed by the Dutch government upon our missionary operations in their East-India possessions, still continue, and are serious obstacles to the exertions and usefulness of our missionaries. Rev. Isaac Ferris, D. D., of this city, has been sent by, and at the expense of, the Prudential Committee of the A. B. on a mission to Holland, to endeavor to obtain from the government the removal of these restrictions. It is due to the A. B. and to Dr. Ferris to state, that his expenses are defrayed by the Board only while he is travelling and engaged in the business of this mission, and that the expenses of the other parts of his journey are borne by himself.

The receipts into the treasury of the Board during the past year have been \$10,713.78, being \$2,228.30 more than was received the previous year; and the amount paid to the American Board during the past year has been \$10,212.93, being \$1,830.22 more than had been paid the previous year. The expenses of the missionaries supported by our Church during the year, commencing July 1, 1840, and ending June 30, 1841, have been \$13,165.53. It thus appears that the American Board contributed that year for the support of our missionaries \$4,782.82, out of funds not received by our Church.

*Domestic Missions.*—At the date of the last report of the Board of Domestic Missions, thirty-three churches were receiving aid from their funds. During the past year seven new churches have been added to that number, so that there are now forty churches aided by them, thirty-two of which are in the state of New-York, seven in the state of New-Jersey, and one in the state of Pennsylvania. Most, if not all, of these churches are prospering, while in some of them the state of religion is such as to call for thanksgiving and praise.

At the date of the last report of the Board there were eight regularly-constituted Reformed Dutch Churches in the West. They now report, that during the past year there have been organized the Classis of Illinois, consisting of three ministers and three churches, in the state of Illinois; and the Classis of Michigan, consisting of four ministers and four churches, in the state of Michigan. Rev. J. F. Schemerhorn is laboring in the state of Indiana, and Rev. E. Slingerland in the Wisconsin Territory. To each of the infant churches in Illinois, Michigan, Indiana, and Wisconsin, the Board has appropriated \$300 per annum, and this is the largest sum per annum that is appropriated to any of the churches aided by your Board, while to by far the greatest number a much smaller amount is given. The term for which appropriations to some of these churches had been made has expired, and no renewal of aid has been asked for or granted.

The receipts into the treasury of the Board during the last year have amounted to \$5,322.15, and the expenditures have been \$5,244.92.

On reviewing the above statements, it is pleasing to observe the increased interest which is shown by our Church in the cause of Foreign Missions; and the considerations which should urge us to persevere in the great work of evangelizing the heathen, are numerous and powerful. To his church, through those whom he has commissioned to preach his gospel, has Christ given the command to carry that gospel to every creature; nor can we, as a Church, without a criminal dereliction of duty, fail to obey that

command. To Christ the promise of the Father is given, that all nations shall obey him ; and to many of the wisest and most observant of his servants, there seems to be plain intimations, both in the sure word of prophecy and in the providence of God, that the time for the fulfilment of that promise is close at hand. To a great extent the confidence of the heathen in their idolatrous religion is shaken ; through the instrumentality of the missionaries who have been laboring among them, a deep impression has been made on the minds of millions, and the light of knowledge has been spread wide among them. The superiority of Christian nations is felt, and a spirit of inquiry is awakened among the heathen ; the field is white for the harvest. Let us not be among the last or the most sluggish to enter it.

A more interesting field for missionary labor can nowhere be found than that which is presented in the western parts of our country. This region is settling with an enterprising and hardy population, whose increase is so rapid that there is reason to believe they will soon acquire the control of the affairs and destiny of our country. In many places there is an entire destitution of the means of grace, while errors of the most pernicious character are zealously propagated. Should this state of things be permitted to continue, thousands will grow up in our country strangers to the gospel, and in a state little superior to mild and civilized heathenism. These are our own countrymen and brethren—speaking the same language, and living under the same government as ourselves. The attention of the nations of the earth is strongly directed to our land as the land where above all others civil and religious freedom is enjoyed, and the whole world has an interest in the preservation of our free institutions. But the influence and extension throughout our whole borders of the gospel are essential to the preservation of these institutions, while their existence is put in jeopardy just as far as an anti-Christian and irreligious spirit prevails among us. Moreover, in this portion of our country the greatest efforts are put forth to extend the influence of that deadliest of all the enemies of civil and religious liberty and the best interests of man—the anti-

**Christian Church of Rome.** It is therefore of the utmost importance on all accounts that the most vigorous efforts should be made to extend over this wide and fair region the benign influence of the gospel ; and there, too, the most favorable prospects are opened for the extension of our Church. The great obstacle, however, in the way of such an extension, is the limited amount of contributions to the funds of the Board of Domestic Missions. In many instances, orders drawn by the missionaries on the treasurer of the Board for money due them have been dishonored for the want of funds to pay them, to the mortification and serious inconvenience, and even pecuniary loss, of the missionaries who have drawn them. There are now in the hands of the treasurer, unpaid, orders to the amount of \$1,600 ; and several appropriations will soon become due. It is greatly to be regretted that with such prospects of extending our Church, and of sending the gospel to this important and interesting part of our country, the efforts of the Church should be cramped and hindered by the want of funds. In the support of Foreign Missions there has been a gratifying increase of liberality. The receipts into the treasury of the Board of Foreign Missions for the year ending June 1, 1835, amounted to \$3,937.60. The receipts into the treasury of the same Board during the year ending June 1, 1842, amounted to \$10,713.78, being an increase in the annual contributions of the Church to Foreign Missions of \$6,776.18 during the past year above that of the year ending in June, 1835. The receipts into the treasury of the Synod's Board of Domestic Missions during the year ending June 1, 1835, amounted to \$4,273.84. During the year ending June 1, 1842, they have amounted to \$5,322.15, making an increase in the annual contributions of the churches to Domestic Missions during the past year, above those of the year 1835, of only \$1,048.31. The numbers and the wealth belonging to our Church warrant us to say that its contributions for the support of its missionary operations, fall far short of its resources. Were its members properly awakened to a sense of their duty and the importance of missions, we believe that the amount contributed for the support of our domestic missions might without difficulty be doubled, and that

for foreign missions might be much increased. So far as your committee have been able to ascertain, a diversity of sentiment exists as to the best method of producing results so desirable.

Three different plans have been proposed. Some are of the opinion that the best method of sustaining and increasing the funds of our Boards, is the appointment of classical agents.

Others think that the best plan that can be adopted, is that each pastor should consider himself an agent for the Board in his own congregation, and bound in duty faithfully to present before it the subject of missions at a stated season in every year. Or if the ministers of a classis should prefer to do so, then let them during the year each exchange pulpits on a stated Sabbath with a neighboring minister, and preach and take up a collection to aid our Boards. Should this plan be adopted and faithfully carried into execution, we believe that a lively interest in the cause of missions will be awakened in our churches, and that effects highly beneficial will be produced on the minds of their pastors. Indifference to missions is not the sin of the people only. Their ministers may be guilty of it equally with themselves, and where the people are indifferent, it is probably because their pastors are so too. It is therefore of the last importance, if we desire that our missionary operations may be carried on successfully, that our ministers should become deeply interested and zealously engaged in promoting them. Let then every pastor awake, and arise, and survey the field that is spread before him. Let him contemplate the vast nations of the heathen and the spiritual desolations of our own land. Let the truth be impressed on his conscience, that though he is not called personally to labor in the work of Missions, he is not therefore permitted to be indifferent to it; that as a redeemed sinner, gratitude to his Redeemer, and that love to his fellow man, without which he can have no evidence that he is a true follower of Christ, require of him to do what he can to send the gospel to the many millions around him who are perishing in ignorance and sin. Let him resolve in the fear of the Lord that he will exert himself in this good cause and labor faithfully to press on the people of his charge their duty to contribute liberally of their

worldly substance, as the Lord has prospered them, to send the gospel among those who are destitute of it. Let him feel assured that this is a duty from which neither he nor they may shrink without bringing guilt on their souls and incurring the displeasure of the most high God. Should the ministers of our churches thus faithfully endeavor to awaken in their congregations a lively interest in the cause of missions, both at home and abroad, the great Head of the Church will, we doubt not, prosper their efforts by accompanying with his blessing the words they may speak, and opening the hearts of their people to offer their contributions with cheerfulness and liberality.

It remains to mention the third plan, which many prefer, and which your committee would recommend to the approbation of Synod, which is the appointment of a Financial Secretary, who shall devote his whole time to superintend the affairs of the Boards of Foreign and Domestic Missions, of Education, and of the Sabbath School. Many, your committee are aware, object to such an appointment, because, among other reasons, of the large sum it will be necessary to deduct for his support from the contributions of the churches. Many others, however, think it necessary to awaken the interest and draw forth the resources of the Church. Your committee would respectfully suggest, that the success of such an arrangement, should it be adopted, will depend on the character and qualifications of the man who may be selected to carry it into effect, and that an injudicious selection will be greatly injurious to the cause it is wished to advanced. The greatest care is therefore necessary in this appointment, and he who is chosen should be pre-eminently a discreet and prudent man—kind and forbearing, and yet zealous and active in the cause—fitted by mildness and persuasion to convince and win over its opponents, or to rouse to effort in its behalf those who are indifferent or sluggish—while his attachment to the doctrines and order of our Church should be so unquestionably sincere as to recommend him to the confidence of all its members. Your committee submit the following resolution.



**Resolved,** That a Financial Secretary of the Boards of Foreign and Domestic Missions, of Education, and of Sabbath-schools, be appointed, whose duty it shall be to take the general superintendence of the affairs of these Boards.

Upon the communication of Rev. James E. Quaw, the committee report, that it appears, from the communication and from personal conversation with Mr. Quaw, that the Classis of Schoharie appointed him about the beginning of the year 1840 to labor as a missionary in the Valley of the Mississippi, and recommended him to apply to the Synod's Board of Missions to be appointed by them to the same service. In the beginning of April, 1840, Mr. Quaw saw in the Christian Intelligencer a notice of his appointment to labor as a missionary by that Board, but he has never received a commission from them. In the beginning of January, 1841, he received a letter from Rev. B. Taylor, in behalf and by order of the Board of Missions, and dated December 17th, 1840, informing him that they had withdrawn his appointment, and authorizing him to draw on their treasurer for the amount due him for missionary services for about four months, and for his travelling expenses out to the field of labor; Mr. Quaw, however, considered himself as authorized to labor as a missionary under the appointment of classis, and on the ground of that appointment claims payment from the Board up to June 1st, 1842. Your committee offer the following resolution:

**Resolved,** That as the Board of Missions are bound only by their own appointments, Mr. Quaw has claims on them only for services actually rendered under and according to their appointment, and that the action of the Board to him has been just.

All which is respectfully submitted,

SAMUEL B. HOW, *Chairman.*

It was referred to the Committee on Missions to nominate the names of three persons from whom the Synod may choose the Financial Secretary.

The committee reported, and Synod proceeded to the election. On counting the ballots, it appeared that the Rev. Isaac S. Demund was chosen.

*Resolved*, That the chairmen and secretaries of the several Boards be a committee to regulate the duties and fix the salaries of Financial Secretary.

*Resolved*, That in case the Rev. Mr. Demund should not accept the appointment of Financial Secretary, that the above committee be authorized to appoint one for one year.

The Committee on Nominations having reported, Synod proceeded to fill the places of those in the Board of Missions of the General Synod whose term of service has expired. On counting the ballots, it appeared that the following were elected, viz : Rev. Thomas DeWitt, D. D., John Knox, D. D., Jacob Brodhead, D. D., Samuel B. How, D. D., and Messrs. William B. Crosby, Hiram Upson, M. D., Thomas Lippencot, H. H. Van Vliet, Stephen Van Rensselaer, Cornelius Suydam, and Cornelius Heyer.

The Committee on Nominations having reported, Synod proceeded to fill the places of those in the Board of Foreign Missions whose term of service has expired. On counting the ballots, it appeared that the following were chosen, viz : Rev. John Garretson, Thomas M. Strong, D. D., James Romeyn, and Messrs. Peter D. Vroom, and Isaac Young.

The Committee on Nominations having reported double the number of persons from whom to elect an individual to preach the annual missionary sermon, the Synod proceeded to the election, when the Rev. William H. Campbell was chosen *primarius*, and the Rev. Francis M. Kip, *secundus*.

## ARTICLE XIX.

### *Widows' Fund.*

The Committee on the Widows' Fund reported, and their report was adopted, and is as follows :—

The Committee on the Relief Fund ask leave to report, and their report is as follows :

The committee have examined the treasurer's report, and endeavored to ascertain as near as possible, the present state and future prospects of the institution. Although this important institution has not hitherto met the favor to which it is justly entitled from the ministers and churches, yet on the whole it has been advancing in the confidence of both, and now gives the fullest assurance of success.

Doubts have been expressed, and in many instances the plan and results have been illy understood, but these doubts are very generally removed, and the feasibility of the plan becomes more and more certain to all who carefully examine the subject.

The gradual increase of the funds, and the full capacity to meet any demands which may arise in any ordinary contingency, may be regarded as full proof of the correctness of the original plan. \*

It is also clear, had the number of ministerial subscribers been as large as the plan contemplated, the funds would have realized all the primary calculations. The funds now are in a very favorable state, and promise to realize the most sanguine expectations of the friends of the institution.

The amount of funds now reported is about \$7,550, being an increase by the treasurer's report of \$1,050 during the last year. The funds are safely invested by the Board of Corporation. There are now about fifty subscribers, some of whom have paid in full, and some in part, but it is confidently hoped that measures will be taken to complete every subscription.

The institution affords aid in some instances—and in others an easy and certain relief to afflicted families and individuals. Your committee feel confident that ministers will find it their interest, and probably much for the future comfort of their families, to make this an important point in their financial arrangements—such as setting apart all their marriage fees, to be invested in the funds.

It is true, however, that at this time the salaries of many of our most faithful ministers are so small, and what is still more distressing, so very imperfectly paid, that it may be difficult for them to

spare even a part of their funds from the support of their families. It was therefore recommended by the last General Synod, that the consistories may, if they judge proper, pay the whole or any part of the sum necessary to obtain an interest in the funds for their ministers. Could the consistories be made fully acquainted with the subject, their feelings be enlisted, and their energies employed in this noble work of benevolence, every minister in this Synod and the Church generally, would be interested in the funds. As proof of this, your committee would mention an instance. Elder William Houston, of Orange County, who has been twice on the committee of Synod on this subject, fully appreciated the value of the institution, and on his return home did, what your committee hope every elder, now a member of Synod not only, but every elder in the Church, will feel it his duty and privilege to do. He consulted his brethren, represented the importance of the subject to the people, and actually raised \$100, to pay five installments to the funds for his pastor, the Rev. James Ten Eyck.

Here is an example to be imitated and emulated by the good and faithful elders of the Church.

Nor do your committee doubt the willingness of the churches to aid in this work, if properly presented to them. Hitherto the General Synod have never appealed to the churches in vain. They have cheerfully advanced funds for all the important institutions for the purposes of education, and the establishment and spread of the gospel. Your committee cannot doubt, that if this Synod recommend this subject to them, they will not be backward in this benevolent work, when they are made to look on the uncertain support of ministers; the extreme difficulty, if not absolute impossibility of ministers generally, to provide a support in protracted illness, or advanced life, for themselves or families. Every feeling of Christian benevolence and duty must, will induce them, to provide temporal comforts for those who have labored for them, and their families, in the work of the Lord; who are excluded by their office from the usual employments of other men in secular affairs, and whose whole time must be devoted to their important ministerial duties, and

the spiritual interest of their people. On this subject, the Board of Direction says, in their annual report,—

“The Widows’ Fund continues to accumulate slowly. A large portion of the churches have not been heard from at all, on the subject, during the year. The Board have unabated confidence in the wisdom and beneficent tendency of the plan of this foundation; and are only alike surprised at what appears to them an inconsiderate apathy on the subject on the part of the churches, and an improvidence on the part of ministers. They hope, when it shall become available for the actual relief of those interested in it, that it will speedily receive the attention to which it is entitled. It requires only that all our ministers become subscribers, and that every church make an annual collection in its favor, to render it forever ample for all the objects which it contemplates.”

Your committee recommend the following resolutions to the General Synod :

*Resolved,* That General Synod earnestly recommend to all the consistories through the Church, to make immediate efforts to pay all, or such parts of the subscriptions of ministers to the relief funds, as circumstances may render expedient, to constitute them members of the institution.

*Resolved,* That the several classes be requested to take immediate measures, such as in their judgment, may be best calculated to constitute each minister a member of the institution.

*Resolved,* That this important and benevolent institution be recommended to the attention of all our ministers, as affording a safe and convenient mode of securing a decent competency in sickness, or to their families in case of their death.

*Resolved,* That ministers be recommended to exchange pulpits for the express purpose of bringing this subject before the people.

J. MURPHEY, *Chairman.*

## ARTICLE XX.

*Particularia.*

*Resolved,* That the thanks of the General Synod be presented to the Rev. Classis of Amsterdam, for the readiness and kindness with which they granted the loan to this Synod of the series of original letters and documents received by them from America from 1640 to 1775, in their archives, and with which they allowed the free use of the volumes containing copies of the correspondence of the committee of classis with the American ministers and churches during that period, for the purpose of being transcribed.

*Resolved.* That the thanks of the Synod be presented to J. Romeyn Brodhead, Esq., for his agency when in Holland, to procure from the Classis of Amsterdam the above named papers and documents for the use of the Synod.

*Resolved,* That the Rev. Thomas E. Vermilye, D. D., and John B. Steele, and the Elder, Sevrin Bruyn, be a committee to make arrangements for holding a meeting in behalf of the benevolent institutions of the General Synod, in the church on LaFayette Place, on the evening of the seventh day of the session.

The committee reported, and their report was adopted, and the meeting was held accordingly.

*Resolved,* That the Rev. Dr. Brownlee be requested to preach a sermon on Romanism before the Synod, at such time during the session, as may be convenient to him.

*Resolved,* That the Rev. Philip Duryee, D. D., and the Elder, Smith Bloomfield, be a committee to wait on Dr. Brownlee in relation to the subject.

The committee reported, that Dr. Brownlee would preach such a sermon on the evening of the eighth day of the session.

The communication containing the bequest of the Rev. Elias Van Benschoten, was read.

*Resolved*, That the Stated Clerk be authorized to purchase one dozen copies of the Constitution of the Church, for the use of the General Synod.

#### ARTICLE XXI.

##### *Benevolent and Religious Institutions.*

The Rev. Ornan Eastman, one of the Secretaries of the American Tract Society, addressed the Synod during a part of the morning of the eighth day of the session, relative to the operations of that institution.

Synod having heard the Rev. Mr. Eastman, one of the Secretaries of the American Tract Society, in advocating the plans and claims of that institution,

*Resolved*, That Synod have full confidence in the importance and usefulness of said institution, and cordially commend its interests to the prayers and liberality of the churches under their care.

*Resolved*, That the churches be requested to take up a collection in behalf of the American Colonization Society, on the Fourth of July, or on some Sabbath as near that time as practicable.

#### ARTICLE XXII.

##### *Pastoral Letter.*

Nothing occurred.

#### ARTICLE XXIII.

##### *Synodical Archives.*

Nothing occurred.

**ARTICLE XXIV.***Accounts.*

The Committee on Accounts reported, and their report was adopted, and is as follows :

The Committee on Accounts, have examined the account of the door-keeper's bill, amounting to \$14.44, and found the same correct, and recommend that it be paid.

C. GATES, *Chairman.*

**ARTICLE XXV.***Resumption and Close.*

*Resolved,* That the Stated Clerk publish one thousand copies of the Minutes of this Synod, duly authenticated, and that he distribute among the Classes the number of copies directed by them.

Agreeably to the standing rule of Synod, the roll was called at the close of the session, when it appeared that the following members were absent without permission, viz : Rev. Jeremiah S. Lord, John Gray, and James Murphey, D. D., and the Elder, John Vanderbilt.

*Resolved,* That the cordial thanks of this Synod be presented to those ministers and friends of our Church in this city, who have kindly entertained its members during its sittings ; and also to the Consistory of the Franklin Street Church, for the use of their buildings during this session of Synod.

The Minutes were read and approved.

**ARTICLE XXVI.***Adjournment.*

Synod adjourned, to meet in the Third Reformed Dutch Church, in the city of Albany, on the first Wednesday in June, 1843, at ten



o'clock A. M., and was closed with singing second part of the 133d Psalm, and prayer and pronouncing of the apostolic benediction by the President.

JAS. B. HARDENBERGH, *President*.

M. S. HUTTON, *Adressor*.

R. D. VAN KLEECK, } *Clerks*.  
A. B. CHITTENDEN, }

Official copy from the original Minutes.

THOS. M. STRONG, *Stated Clerk*.





THE  
ACTS AND PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
GENERAL SYNOD  
OF THE  
Reformed Protestant Dutch Church  
IN  
NORTH AMERICA,  
AT  
ALBANY, JUNE, 1843.

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NEW-YORK:  
J. POST & CO., PRINTERS,  
240 Pearl st., cor. Burling slip.

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1843.



# ACTS AND PROCEEDINGS

*Of the General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church in North America, convened in the City of Albany, on Wednesday, the seventh day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-three. The session continued from the seventh to the fifteenth day of June, inclusive.*

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## FORMATION OF SYNOD.

### ARTICLE I.

#### *Opening of Synod.*

The Synod was opened with prayer, by the Rev. James B. Hardenburgh, D. D., the President of the last General Synod, who preached a sermon on the evening of the first day of the session, from 1 Corinthians ii. 1-5: "And I, brethren, when I came to you, came not with excellency of speech, or of wisdom, declaring unto you the testimony of God; For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I was with you in weakness and fear, and in much trembling. And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit, and of power: That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God."

### ARTICLE II.

#### *Members Present.*

FROM THE PARTICULAR SYNOD OF NEW-YORK.

#### *1. From the Classis of New-York.*

Rev. William C. Brownlee, D. D., William S. Moore, and George Fisher.\*

\* Obtained leave of absence on the eighth day of the session.

Elders, Joseph V. Varick, Elbert A. Brinckerhoff,\* Daniel P. Ingraham.†

2. *From the South Classis of New-York.*

Rev. Cornelius D. Westbrook, D. D., J. M. Matthews, D. D.‡  
Elders, John D. Keese,§ Horatio P. Allen.||

3. *From the Classis of New-Brunswick.*

Rev. Robert Van Amburgh,¶ James K. Campbell, Talbot W. Chambers.

Elders, Cornelius L. Hardenburgh,¶ John I. Gaston.\*\*

4. *From the Classis of Bergen.*

Rev. Ransford Wells, Renjamin C. Taylor, D. D.  
Elder, George Zabriskie.

5. *From the Classis of Paramus.*

Rev. Wilhelmus Eltinge, D. D., John H. Duryea,†† and Ebenezer Wiggins.‡‡

Elder, James Van Blarcom.‡‡

\* Succeeded on the *fourth* day of the session by his *primarius*, Abraham Van Nest.

† Took his seat on the *seventh* day of the session, and obtained leave of absence on the *eighth*.

‡ Took his seat on the *third* day of the session.

§ Took his seat on the *second* day of the session.

¶ Took his seat on the *eighth* day of the session, and obtained leave of absence on the same day.

¶ Obtained leave of absence on the *sixth* day of the session.

\*\* Obtained leave of absence on the *seventh* day of the session.

†† Took his seat on the *fourth* day of the session.

‡‡ Took his seat on the *seventh* day of the session.

6. *From the Classis of Long-Island.*

Rev. S. M. Woodbridge, Thomas B. Gregory, A. Hamilton Bishop.\*

Elders, Peter Wyckoff, Abraham Remsen.†

7. *From the Classis of Philadelphia.*

Rev. Peter Labagh,‡ Charles P. Wack.

Elder, Benjamin Baird.‡

8. *From the Classis of Poughkeepsie.*

Rev. Alexander M. Mann, John C. Cruickshank.\*

Elder, Charles P. Adriance.†

*From the Classis of Passaic.*

Rev. Garrit C. Schanck, Joseph Wilson, and William I. Thompson.§

Elder, Simon H. Vanness.

10. *From the Classis of Illinois.*

Rev. George G. Sill, Elbert Slingerland, and Alexander C. Hillman.

Elders, \* \* \* \*

FROM THE PARTICULAR SYNOD OF ALBANY.

1. *From the Classis of Albany.*

Rev. Gilbert M<sup>c</sup>P. Myers, Ralph Willis,|| and Duncan Kennedy.¶

Elders, John Q. Wilson, Andrew Meneely.

\* Took his seat on the *third* day of the session.

† Took his seat on the *seventh* day of the session.

‡ Obtained leave of absence on the *eighth* day of the session.

§ Took his seat on the *fourth* day of the session.

|| Succeeded by the *primarius*, Rev. S. V. E. Westfall, on the *sixth* day of the session.

¶ Took his seat on the *seventh* day of the session.



2. *From the Classis of Ulster.*

Rev. Martin L. Schenck,\* C. S. Van Santvoord,† and John H. Van Wagenen.‡

Elders, John Snyder,§ Garrit Mynders,|| Teunis J. Houghtaling.‡

2. *From the Classis of Rensselaer.*

Rev. John S. Himrod, John C. Vandevoot,§ and Andrew N. Kittle.‡

Elders, James Phillips, George H. Tater.¶

4. *From the Classis of Washington.*

Rev. David A. Jones, Jacob A. Lansing, and John Whitbeck.\*\*

Elders, William Turk,†† Henry Frazee.

5. *From the Classis of Montgomery.*

Rev. Abraham H. Myers.

Elder, Henry I. Diefendorf.

6. *From the Classis of Schoharie.*

Rev. Alanson B. Chittendon, Richard D. Van Kleeck, Samuel Robertson.‡‡

Elders, William Beekman, James Van Gaasbeck.§§

\* Obtained leave of absence on the *eighth* day of the session.

† Succeeded on the *eighth* day of the session by Rev. David Demarest.

‡ Took his seat on the *second* day of the session.

§ Obtained leave of absence on the *seventh* day of the session.

|| Took his seat on the *second* day of the session, and was succeeded on the *seventh* by the *secundus*, the Elder James Woodruff.

¶ Succeeded by the Elder Thomas F. Mesick, on the *sixth* day of the session.

\*\* Obtained leave of absence on the *third* day of the session, and succeeded by his *secundus*, Rev. John J. Quick, on the *fourth* day of session.

†† Obtained leave of absence on the *ninth* day of the session.

‡‡ Took his seat on the *seventh* day of the session, and was succeeded on the *on the eighth* day of the session by the *primarius*, Rev. William Lohead.

§§ Succeeded on the *fourth* day of the session by the *primarius*, Stone S. Becker.

7. *From the Classis of Schenectady.*

Rev. Abraham J. Swits,\* William Pitcher, and John A. Yates,  
D. D.†

Elders, Jacob T. Lansing, Cornelius Viele, and Peter Shaver.‡

8. *From the Classis of Cayuga.*

Rev. William W. Rand, John P. Knox, and William Gray.†

Elders,               \*               \*               \*               \*

9. *From the Classis of Orange.*

Rev. James Demarest, Charles Whitehead, and Robert P. Lee,  
Jr.†

Elders, Peter Neaffie, William Houston.§

10. *From the Classis of Greene.*

Rev. David Murdock, James Romeyn,|| and Ephraim De Puy.

Elders, John Van Vechten, Anthony M. Van Bergen.¶

## ARTICLE III.

*Moderators.*

The Rev. William C. Brownlee, D.D. was chosen President.

The Rev. Richard D. Van Kleeck was chosen Adsector.

The Rev. John P. Knox, and Ransford Wells were chosen Clerks,  
*pro tem.*

\* Obtained leave of absence on the *eighth* day of the session.

† Took his seat on the *second* day of the session.

‡ Obtained leave of absence on the *third* day of the session.

§ Took his seat on the *seventh* day of the session.

|| Succeeded on the *second* day of the session, by his *primarius*, the Rev. Jeremiah Searle.

¶ Took his seat on the *second* day of the session, and obtained leave of absence on the *eighth* day.

**ARTICLE IV.***Reading of the Minutes.*

The Minutes of the last ordinary session of the Synod were read.

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**ACTS OF THE SYNOD.****ARTICLE I.***Orders and Rules.*

These were read.

**ARTICLE II.***Standing Committees.*

The following were appointed:—

*On the Professorate.*—Rev. Benjamin C. Taylor, D. D., Peter Labagh, and Abraham H. Myers; and the Elders, Cornelius L. Hardenburgh,\* and John Q. Wilson.

*On Synodical Minutes.*—Rev. Wilhelmus Eltinge, D. D., John C. Vandervoort, and William Pitcher; and the Elders, Joseph V. Varick, and William Turk.

*On Missions.*—Rev. Charles Whitehead, Alexander M. Mann, and John P. Knox; and Elders, George Zabriskie, and James Van Gaasbeck.

\* The Elder Abraham Van Nest was appointed in the place of the Elder C. L. Hardenburgh on the sixth day of the session, when the latter obtained leave of absence.

*On the State of Religion.*—Rev. Richard D. Van Kleeck, William S. Moore, and Simon V. E. Westfall; and the Elders, John I. Gaston, and Jacob T. Lansing.

*On Overtures and Judicial Business.*—Rev. Cornelius D. Westbrook, D. D., James Demarest, and Gerrit C. Schanck; and the Elders, Elbert A. Brinkerhoff, and John Van Vechten.

*On Accounts.*—Rev. Talbot W. Chambers, Martin L. Schenck, and David A. Jones; and the Elders, Andrew Meneely, and Peter Neaffie.

*On Correspondence.*—Rev. Ransford Wells, S. M. Woodbridge, and Abraham J. Switz; and the Elders, Benjamin Baird, and James Phillips.

*On Education.*—Rev. George Fisher, George G. Sill, and James K. Campbell; and the Elders, Peter Wyckoff, and Cornelius Viele.

*On Nominations.*—Rev. Alexander M. Mann, John S. Himrod, and A. B. Chittenden; and the Elders, John Snyder, and William Beekman.

*On the Widows' Fund.*—Rev. Joseph Wilson, Elbert Slingerland, and David Murdock; and the Elders, George Zabriskie, and Peter Shaver.

### ARTICLE III.

#### *Communications.*

A communication was received from the Rev. Isaac Ferris, D.D., resigning his appointment by the Synod of 1841, to prepare a series of Bible questions. Whereupon, it was

**Resolved**, That the Rev. Thomas M. Strong, D. D., be associated with the Rev. Dr. Ferris; and that they be requested to prepare a system of Bible questions for the use of our Sabbath-schools.

The following Report was received from the Board of Superintendents of the Theological Seminary, and referred to the Committee on the Professorate.

The Committee on Synodical Reports handed in their report, which was adopted, and is as follows:—

Report of the Board of Superintendents to the General Synod of the Reformed Dutch Church:

The Board met in the Theological Hall, at New-Brunswick, July 19th, 1842, and continued their session till July 21st.

The following members appeared and took their seats, viz.:

Rev. N. I. Marselus,	Rev. Wm. H. Campbell,
“ J. A. Van Doren,	“ Abraham H. Myers,
“ J. E. Miller,	“ J. Van Vechten,
“ I. P. Labagh,	“ Horace Doolittle,
“ William R. Bogardus,	“ James Abell,
“ H. M. Boyd,	“ C. C. Van Arsdale,
“ F. H. Vanderveer,	“ J. C. Vandervoort,
“ Ransford Wells,	“ James Romeyn.
“ R. D. Van Kleeck,	

The Rev. N. I. Marselus was chosen President, and the Rev. William H. Campbell, Clerk, *pro. tem.*

The Annual Report of the Theological Faculty was received, containing the following list of Students, viz.:

*Senior Class.*

Cornelius Blauvelt,	Barnabas Collins,
Cornelius E. Crispell,	John Dubois,

John De Witt,  
 William H. Halloway,  
 Victor M. Hulbert,  
 John Himrod,  
 Martin V. Schoonmaker,  
 Andrew B. Taylor,  
 Ralph Willis,  
 Eben S. Hammond,

Samuel W. Mills,  
 Elbert S. Porter,  
 Abraham G. Ryerson,  
 Aaron B. Winfield,  
 John N. Shultz,  
 Theodore F. Wyckoff,  
 Jacob A. Lansing.

*Middle Class.*

Isaac L. Kip Miller,  
 George R. Williamson,  
 Nicholas Dubois Williamson,

George T. Van Wyck,  
 E. Doddridge Gans,  
 Jaques Bennet.

*Junior Class.*

William Cornell,  
 J. Gardiner,  
 William V. V. Mabon,  
 D. M'Niesk,  
 P. D. Oakey,  
 E. Vedder,  
 A. G. Vermilye,

John Limberger See,  
 Chas. Van Romondt,  
 N. E. Smith,  
 William Taylor,  
 William Thompson,  
 W. Watson,  
 Samuel G. Hopper.

It appears also from said report, that two of these students have been removed by death, viz. : Jaques Bennet, of the Middle Class, and Samuel G. Hopper, of the Junior Class ; and that two have been compelled by ill health to intermit their studies for a time, viz. : Isaac L. Kip Miller, of the Middle Class, and W. Watson, of the Junior Class.

The Professors further remark, that the utmost order and harmony have, during the year, prevailed in the Seminary, and that no case of discipline has occurred. The students have exhibited examples of piety, and have apparently done much good in the Sabbath-schools, Bible and Missionary associations.

The Professors finally "suggest the propriety of making the commencement of the next year, in the Seminary, to correspond with that in the College, as arranged by the Board of Trustees. It would be desirable that the summer vacation should extend, as near as might be, to the term of three months, with a view to accommodate, from year to year, the indigent students. These are anxious to sustain themselves better by teaching in country schools, for which employment they have frequent applications, but are excluded by the circumstance, that they cannot engage to serve as teachers during a whole quarter."

The students of the several classes were examined by the Professors in the various studies of their respective departments. This examination was throughout highly satisfactory to the board. The students have not only made very respectable progress in the acquisition of knowledge, but have been trained to the use of their own minds in the investigation of truth.

The members of the Senior Class were examined on personal piety, and their views in desiring to enter the ministry. They also exhibited specimens of sermonizing and preaching.

*Resolved*, That the examination be sustained, and that the following young gentlemen be recommended to the Professors for the usual certificates, viz. :

Cornelius Blauvelt,  
Cornelius E. Crispell,  
Barnabas Collina,  
John Dubois,  
John De Witt,  
William H. Halloway,  
Victor M. Hulbert,  
Jacob A. Lansing,

Eben S. Hammond,  
Samuel W. Mills,  
Elbert S. Porter,  
Martin V. Schoonmaker,  
John N. Shultz,  
Ralph Willis,  
Theodore F. Wyckoff.

Messrs. John Himrod, Abraham G. Ryerson, and Aaron B. Win-

field, having been prevented from attending the examination by illness, it was

*Resolved*, That they be examined by the Committee appointed for the reception of students ; and that these young men be entitled to professoral certificates so soon as they shall have been approved by said Committee.

The Committee reported favorably, and recommended the following resolution, which was passed :

*Resolved*, That the aforesaid young gentlemen be recommended to the Professors for the usual certificates.

The seats of the following members of the board become vacant at the next meeting of the General Synod, viz :

Rev. John E. Miller, of the South Classis of New-York.

“ I. P. Labagh, of the Classis of Long-Island.

“ H. M. Boyd, of the Classis of Washington.

“ F. H. Vanderveer, of the Classis of Orange.

“ Ransford Wells, of the Classis of Bergen.

“ J. Romeyn, of the Classis of Greene.

“ R. D. Van Kleeck, of the Classis of Schoharie.

A communication was received from the Senior Class, presenting to the General Synod a Portrait of the Rev. Dr. Cannon.

*Resolved*, That the Portrait of the Rev. Dr. Cannon be accepted, in behalf of the General Synod, by this board, and that a proper expression be returned to the Class for this mark of their respect for their Professor.

The Board also beg leave to suggest to the General Synod some alteration in the exercises of the students on closing their course in



our Theological Seminary, which appear to the board adapted to be of much service to the students, and to make this an occasion of greater interest, not only to them, but to the churches and the public at large. They would suggest the observance of a public Theological Commencement at the close of the theological year. That the graduating class, instead of reading sermons, as they now do only before the board, and being obliged to give very partial exhibitions of their views and talents—especially in cases where the class is large—should be required to prepare discourses, either with or without texts, on subjects assigned in time by the Theological Faculty. That their discourses be of a length regulated by the number of the graduating class, and pronounced from memory at a public exhibition in the Reformed Dutch Church in this city, due notice of which shall be given in the Christian Intelligencer, and other religious and secular papers.

The board would also suggest the propriety of a public address, at the close of the above exercises, to the students, by one of the theological faculty—each professor to take his turn in alphabetical order.

In view of the whole, the board consider the prospects of the seminary as very encouraging, and as affording the hope of soon supplying all the churches of our denomination with well-qualified ministers, and furnishing such for places beyond our present bounds.

The board entertain sanguine expectations that this institution will form a source of the happiest influence upon our country, and upon the world.

For such things, the board feel bound to give thanks to the Author of all good.

The board have resolved, that the next theological year commence on the first of October, in order to correspond with the beginning of the term in Rutgers College. It is desirable that the

General Synod make a permanent arrangement on this subject.

N. I. MARSELUS, *President*.

At an extra session of the board, called immediately after the adjournment of the regular session, before they had left the house, Charles S. Hageman appeared ; and, according to an order from General Synod, was examined by the professors and the board : whereupon, it was

*Resolved*, That the examination of Mr. Charles S. Hageman be sustained, and that he be recommended to the Classis of New-Brunswick for licensure.

*Resolved*, That the Stated Clerk report to General Synod the examination of Mr. Hageman.

A true copy from the original minutes,

RANSFORD WELLS, *Stated Clerk*.

The following report was received from the Committee appointed to prepare a Sabbath-School Hymn-Book, which was referred to a special committee, consisting of the Rev. J. A. Yates, D. D., Andrew N. Kittle, Robert P. Lee, Jr., and C. S. Van Santvoord ; and the Elders, Garrit Mynders and Anthony M. Van Bergen :

The Committee appointed by Synod at its meeting in June, 1842, to select Hymns for the use of the Sabbath-schools connected with the Reformed Dutch Church, respectfully report, That they have given to the object of their appointment their best attention. A selection of between three hundred and three hundred and fifty hymns, embracing a great variety of subjects, sound in sentiment and excellent in style, has been made, and is herewith, by reference and first lines, presented to Synod.

In order to enlarge the variety of matter in the authorized Psalmody of the Church, none of the psalms or hymns contained in our Psalm-book have been transferred to this selection.

The committee, being informed that in many parts of the church,

Hymn-books have been introduced into the prayer-meetings and lecture-room unauthorized by the Synod, have sought in the selection now submitted, to secure a book that shall at once be entirely suitable for the Sabbath-school, and at the same time be of a sufficiently varied and elevated character, to supersede the use of unauthorized hymns in the lecture and prayer meeting.

The arrangement of the hymns, under their appropriate heads, is not entirely complete and accurate in the report herewith submitted; to perfect this will be the duty of a committee of publication.

The books whence the selections have been made, together with the original hymns, are herewith presented for the use of the Synod.

If the Synod shall authorize the publication, it will be expedient to direct that a copy-right be secured.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN KNOX, *Chairman.*

*New-York, 16th May, A. D. 1843.*

The committee reported, and their report was adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee on the subject of the Sabbath-school Hymns beg leave to report—

That so far as they have examined the selection submitted to them, they appear to combine purity of doctrine with a cultivated taste in their literary merit, and in adapting them to the variety of divine truth, special occasions and circumstances. If there is any deficiency noticed by your committee in the selection, it is the want of sufficient number of hymns appropriate to the anniversaries of Sabbath-schools and others authorized by the church.

If the Synod should adopt this selection, the committee would suggest an alteration in the title of the book. The hymns are not intended to be confined to the devotions of the Sabbath-school, but to be used in the weekly lectures and conferences in social wor-

ship. Perhaps the title of "Sabbath-school and Social Hymns of the Reformed Dutch Church," would be an appropriate title.

Your committee would also suggest, that as many hymns are adapted to children and Sabbath-schools exclusively, they should be arranged by themselves in one part of the book, and distinct from those intended for the use of adult Christians.

Your committee would also suggest, that the publication of these hymns should be under the direction of the committee, and that the Stated Clerk be added to this committee.

JNO. A. YATES, *Chairman.*

A communication was received from Mr. Simeon D. Robison, transmitting the certificate of dismissal which was furnished to him and his wife by the Consistory of the Church of Marbletown, under the order of the last Synod, [p. 106,] and which has not been accepted by the Consistory of the Church of Tyre, to which he presented it, asking the advice of the Synod on the subject.

Whereupon, the following resolution was adopted :

*Whereas*, The Consistory of the Church of Marbletown have mistaken the meaning of the resolution of General Synod of 1842, in relation to the dismissal of Mr. Robison and wife, therefore

*Resolved*, That they be, and hereby are directed to give to Mr. Robison and wife a certificate of dismissal according to the form prescribed by the Constitution in the Appendix.

A communication was received from Mr. John L. See, a member of the middle class in the Theological Seminary, asking a dispensation in prosecuting studies preparatory to the gospel ministry. which was referred to the Committee on the Professorate.

An extract from the Minutes of the Classis of Schoharie, in relation to the case of Mr. Lawrence Mesereau, Jr., who applies for

a dispensation, was presented, read and referred to the Committee on the Professorate.

#### ARTICLE IV.

##### *Board of Corporation.*

The following Report of the Board of Direction of the Corporation was received, accompanied with the Treasurer's Report, the Annual Digest, a statement of the different Funds of Synod, and of the bonds belonging to each, a list of the securities belonging to the Synod, now in the hands of the Treasurer, and accounts current of said Board, with the Board of Education and the Widows' Fund, together with a list of the scholarships and of the clerical subscriptions to the Widows' Fund, which was read and accepted. So much as relates to the Widows' Fund was referred to the Committee on the Widows' Fund—so much as refers to the Board of Education to the Committee on Education, and the residue to the Committee on the Professorate.

To the General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church—

The Board of Direction of General Synod, have to record the decease of their respected Associate and President, Cornelius Heyer, Esquire, who departed this life on the fifth day of January last.

In the death of Mr. Heyer, the surviving members of the board have lost a friend endeared to them by many estimable qualities, and by long and harmonious association: And the Church has lost a member of matured wisdom, ripened piety, and who, with punctual fidelity, was at all times ready to employ his efforts in promoting her prosperity.

Since Mr. Heyer's decease, Abraham Van Nest, Esquire, the Senior member of the board, has presided at its meetings.

The business confided to the board is so entirely systematized as to cause very little trouble in its administration, and precludes the necessity of any extended report, other than that of the Treasurer, herewith submitted. The investments of the funds of Synod are believed to be good. The list of securities is presented herewith for the inspection of Synod. A small amount of the outstanding subscriptions has been collected during the past year. The receipts of income into the treasury have met all demands upon it. Synod, however, will perceive, that additional responsibilities would produce embarrassment, as there is little or no surplus income.

A contract has been entered into with Messrs. Mentz & Rovoudt to publish the Psalm-Book for three years from the 2d of January, 1843 : they are to pay to Synod six cents for every copy of the 12 and 24mo. size, printed by them ; and also six cents per copy for 2000 copies, printed under the former contract with George W. Mentz & Son.

The Rev. Dr. De Witt has been requested to have the Correspondence of the Classis of Amsterdam with our Churches, now in his possession, bound in a plain and substantial manner, at the expense of Synod. The discretionary power given to this board, in connection with Dr. De Witt (Minutes of Synod of October, 1841, p. 42), has been referred to the latter.

One hundred dollars towards the salary of the Janitor of Rutgers College, and twenty dollars for fuel for the past year, have been ordered to be paid by the treasurer, as legitimately belonging to the necessary contingent expenses of the Theological Séminary.

The Widows' Fund accumulates very slowly. Whilst your board feel amazed at the apathy of ministers and churches on this subject, they reiterate their entire confidence in the wisdom and benevolence of the principles on which it is founded ; and they fondly anticipate the time when it will yield relief to many a needy widow and fatherless child.

The board have not been able to effect any thing in reference to an increase of lecture-rooms for the use of Rutgers College.

The Annual Digest accompanies this Report, and also a Statement of the Condition of the Education and Widows' Funds.

Abraham Van Nest, Esquire, has been appointed to give to the Synod any additional information that may be required.

All which is respectfully submitted,

ABM. VAN NEST,  
W. B. CROSBY, } *Directors.*  
JOHN KNOX.

ISAAC YOUNG, *Treasurer.*

*New-York, 31st May, 1843.*

## TREASURER'S ANNUAL REPORT.

*The General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church,  
in account with ISAAC YOUNG, their Treasurer.*

		DR.	
1842			
June	1	To cash paid Rev. Dr. Cannon, one quarter's salary as professor in the Theological College, due this day,	\$393 75
	2	" " Rev. Dr. Van Vranken, one quarter's salary as professor in the Theological College, due yesterday,	393 75
		" " Rev. Dr. M'Clelland, one quarter's salary as professor in the Theological College, due yesterday,	437 50
	4	" " John D. Keese, treasurer of the Board of Education, the balance of six months' interest on the invested scholarships, \$23,451 20, due this day, viz.: \$520 79	
		Deduct interest on \$1751 20, amount of the Cadmus Scholarship for six months per order of General Synod, made at last June session, 61 29	
			459 50
	6	" " Rev. John H. Pitcher, his subscription for one year to the Widows' Fund, returned,	20 00
		" " John D. Keese, treasurer of the Board of Education, loaned him on his note at six months, with interest, belonging to the Education Fund,	300 00
	11	" " Isaac Young, treasurer, one year's salary, due yesterday, \$250 00	
		Postage and discount on uncurrent money, 2 55	
		Do. do. for the Widows' Fund, 3 13	
			255 68
		" " T. P. Tinslay, for attendance on General Synod as door-keeper at their session the present month, stationary, &c.	14 44
July	16	" " Thomas R. Mercein, Jr., for printing the Minutes of General Synod, paper, binding, &c. sessions of October, 1841, and June, 1842,	210 54
		Carried forward,	\$2485 16



1842		DR.			
		Brought forward,		\$2485	16
July	18	To cash paid Peter Spader, treasurer, &c. of Rutgers College, one year's interest on Henry Rutgers' donation of \$5000 to Rutgers College, due 20th June last,		300	
	27	" " Rev. Thomas A. Amerman, his subscription for one year to the Widows' Fund, returned,		20	
Aug	31	" " Peter Spader, agent of General Synod, sundry bills for repairs to Rutgers College,		125	88
Sept	5	" " Rev. Dr. Van Vranken, one quarter's salary as professor in the Theological College, due first inst.		393	75
		" " Rev. Dr. Cannon, one quarter's salary as professor in the Theological College, due first inst.		393	75
	29	" " Rev. Dr. M'Clelland, one quarter's salary as professor in the Theological College, due first inst.		437	50
Oct.	8	" " Abraham Van Nest, advanced by him to James C. Van Dyke, for planting trees, &c. at Rutgers College,		30	62
	31	" " Peter Spader, agent of General Synod, sundry bills for repairs to Rutgers College,		178	23
Nov.	2	" " Rev. William H. Campbell, his travelling expenses as delegate to the General Synod of the German Reformed Church at Lewisburg, Pennsylvania, on the 17th October last,		37	87
	4	" " Rev. Cornelius Van Cleef, delegate to German Synod, his travelling expenses,		38	75
	15	" " John D. Keese, treasurer of the Board of Education, in full payment of the interest on the invested scholarships in the Theological College, due 4th December next, after deducting the interest for six months on the Richard Cadmus Scholarship, \$1751 20, per order of General Synod, June, 1841,		759	50
	21	" " The Minister, Elders, and Deacons of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church of the city of New-York, loaned them on their bond dated 16th inst., payable in one year, with interest at 7 per cent. per annum, secured by their mortgage on property in Fulton-street, &c., New-York,		12000	
Dec.	3	" " Rev. Dr. Cannon, one quarter's salary as professor in the Theological College, due first inst.		393	75
	6	" " Rev. Dr. Van Vranken, one quarter's salary as professor in the Theological College, due first inst.		393	75
		" " Rev. Dr. M'Clelland, one quarter's salary as professor in the Theological College, due first inst.		437	50
		Carried forward,		18426	21

1843		DR.		
		Brought forward,	18426	21
Jan.	13	To cash paid Peter Spader, agent of General Synod, sundry bills for repairs to Rutgers College,	28	61
	16	" " Greenwich Insurance Company, premium of insurance for \$8000 on Rutgers College, for one year from 15th inst.	48	
Feb.	17	" " Quincy C. Degroove, loaned him on his bond, dated 14th inst., with interest, secured by mortgage,	1000	
Mar.	3	" " Rev. Dr. Cannon, one quarter's salary as professor in the Theological College, due first inst.	393	75
	4	" " Rev. Dr. Van Vranken, one quarter's salary as professor in the Theological College, due first inst.	393	75
	10	" " Rev. Dr. M'Clelland, one quarter's salary as professor in the Theological College, due first inst.	437	50
Apr.	6	" " Rev. Maurice W. Dwight, his expenses as delegate to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church at Philadelphia, in May last,	10	
May	8	" " Myndert Van Schaick, for the assignment to General Synod of John B. Dengeldien's bond and mortgage for this amount, bearing interest at 7 per cent.	2600	
	9	" " Rev. John B. Steele, on account of his travelling expenses as delegate to the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, 17th inst.	20	
	22	" " Rev. Thomas M. Strong, D. D., one year's salary as stated clerk of General Synod, due first June next, \$100 00 Postage paid by him during the same period, 1 58	101	58
	26	" " Peter Spader, treasurer, &c., disbursed by him for trees, and planting them in the grounds of Rutgers College,	6	88
		" " Peter Spader, treasurer, &c., towards the salary of the Janitor of Rutgers College for the current year, \$100 00 And for fuel, 20 00	120	
	31	" " Rev. Dr. De Witt, disbursed by him for binding the correspondence with the Classis of Amsterdam, &c.	9	
		" " The following clergymen, their travelling expenses in attending the meeting of the Board of Superintendents of the Theological College at New-Brunswick, viz.: Rev. Isaac P. Labagh, (twice) \$4 25 " J. H. Van Wagenen, 3 00		
		Carried forward,	7 25	23595 28

		DR.			
1843		Brought forward,	7 25	23595	28
May	31	To cash paid Rev. James Abell,	20		
		" H. M. Boyd,	6		
		" R. D. Van Kleeck,	9 50		
		" Ransford Wells,	2 50		
		" W. H. Campbell,	5 25		
		" J. C. Vandervoort,	7 50		
		" Abraham H. Myers,	11		
		" James Romeyn,	5 50		
		" John E. Miller, (thrice)	5		
		" C. C. Van Arsdale,	8 50		
		" N. I. Marselus, (twice)	4		
		Door-keeper's bill,	3 68		
				95	68
		To balance in bank this day,	\$3128 96		
		" on hand,	79 45		
				3208	41
				26899	37

1842		C.R.		
May	31	By Balance brought from account, rendered this day,		\$3473 82
June	3	By Cash received of Rev. Samuel Robertson, agent, etc. collected for the Widows' Fund in the Reformed Dutch Church, Middleburgh, Schoharie county,		
		" " of Rev. Dr. Wyckoff, agent, etc., collected for the Widows' Fund in the Reformed Dutch Church at—		14 75
		Albany,	\$42 41	
		2d R. Dutch Church at Albany,	25 35	
		Subscriptions	70 00	
				137 76
		" " of Rev. J. R. Van Arsdale, Questor, for Minutes of General Synod, furnished to the Classis of Philadelphia,		13 75
	17	" " six months' interest on bond for \$3700 due 24th May last,		129 50
	22	" " six months' interest on bonds for \$10,000 due 22 May last,		350 00
	28	" " six months' interest on two bonds for \$5000 each and one for \$4000		420 00
July	18	" " of Peter Spader, treasurer, etc., balance of cash in his hands due the Professoral fund of the Theological College on the 4th May last,		165 95
	23	" " of Rev. R. D. Van Kleeck, for Minutes of General Synod, furnished to the Classis of Schoharie,		8 00
	25	" " of Rev. Thomas M. Strong, for Minutes of General Synod, furnished to the Classis of Paramus,		12 00
	26	" " of Rev. Abraham H. Myers, Questor of the Classis of Montgomery, for Minutes of General Synod,		10 25
Aug	4	" " six months' interest on bonds for \$8000,		280 00
	6	" " for a dividend on 23 shares of Bergen Turnpike Stock, 10 of which belong to Rutgers College,		8 62
	9	" " received for six months' interest on bond for \$3600 due 30th July last,		126 00
	22	" " of Rev. Stephen H. Meeker, Questor of the South Classis of New-York, for Minutes of General Synod,		7 00
Oct.	12	" " of John Ackerman, treasurer, etc., collected in the Collegiate Church, New-York, for the Widows' Fund,		133 75
	13	" " of the Comptroller of the city of New-York, principal of Water Stock paid off \$1500 with interest to first inst., belonging to the Widows' Fund,		1560 04
	21	" " of Rev. Peter Van Zandt, one year's interest on his subscription of \$100 to the permanent fund of General Synod, due first May last,		7 00
		Carried forward,		\$6858 19

1842		CR.			
		Brought forward,		\$6858	19
Nov.	1	By cash rec'd for six months' interest on bond for \$5000, due this day,		175	00
	2	" " " " " " \$9000, due yesterday,		315	00
	3	" " six months' interest on bond for \$4000, due 4th June,		140	00
		" " six months' interest on bond for \$8500, due 3d October,		297	50
	4	" " in full payment of bond for \$9000, with interest to this day,		9006	90
	5	" " six months' interest on bonds for \$8300, due to-morrow,		290	50
	9	" " six months' interest on bond for \$2300, due 23d Oct.		70	00
		" " Rev. Nicholas J. Marcelus, Questor of the Classis of New-York, for Minutes of General Synod,		30	00
	10	" " of Rev. Dr. De Witt, the subscription of James C. Roosevelt, deceased, to the Widows' Fund,		100	00
	17	" " six months' interest on bond for \$10,000, due 22d inst.		350	00
Dec.	1	" " of Ira C. Voorhees, treasurer, etc., collected in the Reformed Dutch Church at New-Brunswick, for the Widows' Fund,		15	32
	14	" " six months' interest on bond for \$2500, due 26th Oct. last,		87	50
		" " six months' interest on bond for \$3700, due 24th November last,		129	50
	31	" " six months' interest on bond for \$2800, due 27th Oct. last,		98	00
	27	" " six months' interest on bonds for \$10,000, due 22d November last,		350	00
1843	Feb. 13	" " on account of principal of bond for \$3700,		1000	00
	17	" " six months' interest on bond for \$4000, due 4th December last,		140	00
	25	" " six months' interest on bonds for \$6000,		280	00
Mar	4	" " balance of bond for \$3700, with interest to this day,		2767	38
	8	" " for a dividend on 23 shares of Bergen Turnpike Stock, 10 of which belong to Rutgers College,		17	25
	31	" " one year's interest on bond for \$5000, due 8th Dec. last, at 6 per cent. \$300 00 And one year's interest on bond for \$1700, due 10th Jan. last, at 7 per cent. 119 00		419	00
Apl.	6	" " of Rev. Maurice W. Dwight, Questor of the Classis of Long-Island, for Minutes of General Synod,		10	25
	10	" " of B. A. Bevier, for Minutes of General Synod, sold at the office of the Christian Intelligencer,		2	00
Carried forward,				\$22949	29

1843.		C.R.		
		Brought forward,	\$22949	29
Apl.	13	By cash rec'd for six month's interest on bond to General Synod for \$3600, due 30th January last,	126	00
May	1	" " six months' interest on bond for \$5000, due this day,	175	00
	2	" " Rev. J. R. Van Arsdale, Questor of the Classis of Philadelphia, for Minutes of General Synod,	7	50
	3	" " Rev. A. H. Warner, Questor of the Classis of Bergen, for Minutes of General Synod,	14	12
	4	" " six months interest on bond for \$2000, due 23d April last,	70	00
	5	" " six months' interest on bond for \$2500, due 26th April last,	87	50
		" " six months' interest on bond for \$8300, due 3d April last,	297	50
	6	" " six months' interest on bonds for \$8300, due this day,	290	50
	8	" " of Myndert Van Schaick, in full of his subscription of \$1000, to the permanent fund of General Synod, with three years' interest, up to first inst.	1160	00
	11	" " of Rev. G. A. Schanck, Questor of the Classis of Passaic, for Minutes of General Synod,	5	87
		" " of Rev. Dr. Wyckoff, collected in the Second Reformed Dutch Church at Albany, for the Widows' Fund,	43	00
	22	" " of Rev. Dr. Strong, for Minutes of General Synod, for the Classis of New-Brunswick,	17	50
		" " six months' interest on bond for \$10,000, due this day,	350	00
	28	" " of Peter Duryee, collected in the Reformed Dutch Church in Third-street, New-York, for the Widows' Fund,	6	50
		" " for the interest on their subscriptions to the permanent fund of General Synod, due first of May last, viz.: of—		
		Thomas C. Doremus,	\$30	00
		James Suydam,	30	00
		David W. Wetmore,	30	00
		Maria I. Kissam,	30	00
		Catelina Oothout,	30	00
		John Oothout,	30	00
		Cornelius Duryee,	15	00
		Collegiate Churches, N.Y.	300	00
		Abraham Van Nest,	300	00
		David L. Haight,	30	00
		Richard K. Haight,	30	00
		David H. Haight,	30	00
		Lefferts Lefferts,	30	00
			915	00
		" " of the following clergymen, their subscription to the Widows' Fund, viz.:		
		Rev. Thos. De Witt, D.D. 1840,	\$20	00
		Carried forward,	\$26535	28

1843		CR.		
May	Brought forward,		\$20 00	\$26535.28
	Rev. Joseph Wilson,	1840	20 00	
	" Thos. De Witt, D.D.	1841	20 00	
	" Isaac N. Wyckoff, D.D.	"	20 00	
	" Stephen H. Meeker,	"	20 00	
	" J. B. Hardenbergh, D. D.	"	20 00	
	" Samuel Robertson,	1842	20 00	
	" Isaac N. Wyckoff, D.D.	"	20 00	
	" John E. Miller,	"	20 00	
	" J. H. Van Wagenen,	"	20 00	
	" R. D. Van Kleeck,	"	20 00	
	" B. C. Taylor, D.D.	"	20 00	
	" R. O. Currie,	"	20 39	
	" George Sill,	"	20 70	
	" Edward H. May,	"	20 00	
	" Thomas Frazer,	"	20 00	
	" A. H. Warner,	1843	20 00	
	" Edward H. May	"	20 00	
	" Z. H. Kuypers, balance		3 00	
				364 09
				\$26899 37
31	By balance carried to new account,			\$3208 41

ISAAC YOUNG,

Treasurer.

The subscribers, appointed a committee to examine the Treasurer's accounts, have examined the same with the vouchers exhibited by him, and find them correct, leaving a balance due to General Synod of three thousand two hundred and eight dollars and forty-one cents.

W. B. CROSBY, }  
ABM. VAN NEST, } Committee,

New-York, 3d June, 1843.

## ANNUAL DIGEST, 1843.

The Board of Direction submit to General Synod their Annual Digest, as follows :

## FUNDS DEVOTED TO EDUCATION PURPOSES.

*The Van Benschoten Fund.*

The amount of this Fund, as reported by Peter Spader, Treasurer of Rutgers College, and which is loaned upon bonds secured by mortgages upon property in the State of New-Jersey, amounted on the 1st April, 1843, to	\$20,000 00
Balance in his hands on that day,	2,778 08
Interest due on same fund, 1st May, 1843,	1,246 40
There has been paid to indigent students out of the interest of this fund, during the past year,	565 00

*Legacy of Miss Rebecca Knox.*

The amount of this fund is \$2,000, which is loaned on bond, secured by mortgage of property in the State of New-Jersey,	\$2,000 00
Interest due on this fund, on the 1st May, 1843,	120 00
Balance due Peter Spader, Treasurer, &c., on the 1st April, 1843,	162 89
There has been paid to indigent students out of the interest of this fund, during the past year,	60 00
Amount of moneys invested by the Board of Direction, for Education purposes,	\$23,351 20
Balance in the hands of the Treasurer of General Synod,	222 58



JUNE, 1843.

## WIDOWS' FUND.

Amount of moneys invested by the Board of Direction, for the Widows' Fund,	\$8,000 00
Balance in the hands of the Treasurer, belonging to this fund,	732 18

## PERMANENT PROFESSORAL FUND.

Under this head are included all the moneys which have been collected and invested on the subscriptions for the professorships, as well as the moneys formerly in the hands of the Trustees of Rutgers College, viz. :

Loaned by the Board of Direction, secured by bonds and mortgages on real estate, &c.,	\$66,648 80
Balance of the Professoral Fund, formerly in the hands of the Trustees of Rutgers College, and transferred to General Synod, as per account of Peter Spader, rendered 18th July, 1842,	2,950 00
Twenty-three shares of Bergen Turnpike Stock, ten of which belong to Rutgers College, valued at	575 00
Notes given for subscriptions,	300 00
Rev. John F. Schermerhorn's note,	510 00

## MINUTES OF GENERAL SYNOD.

There has been received for Minutes of General Synod, during the past year,	138 24
And there has been paid for printing, paper, &c.,	210 54

ABM. VAN NEST, }  
W. B. CROSBY, } *Directors.*  
JOHN KNOX, }

ISAAC YOUNG, *Treasurer.*

*New-York, 31st May, 1843.*

The Committee on Nominations having reported, Synod proceeded to the election of the Board of Direction of the Corporation. On counting the ballots, it appeared that the following were chosen—Mr. Abraham Van Nest, President ; Messrs. Rev. John Knox, D.D., William B. Crosby, and Theodore Frelinghuysen, Directors ; and Mr. Isaac Young, Treasurer.

#### ARTICLE V.

##### *Correspondence.*

Communications were received from the Rev. I. Helfenstein and Samuel Gutelius, delegates appointed by the Synod of the German Reformed Church, stating reasons why neither the delegates, *primarii* nor *secundi* from said Synod have appeared in the Synod, which were referred to the Committee on Correspondence.

The following report was received from the Committee to effect a closer connexion between the German Reformed and Reformed Protestant Dutch Churches :

The Committee appointed by the General Synod of the Reformed Dutch Church, during their session at New-York, in June, 1842, "to confer" with a similar committee, subsequently appointed by the Synod of the German Reformed Church, "on the subject of a closer connexion between the two bodies," respectfully report—

That the above-mentioned committees met, agreeably to notice, in Philadelphia, on the 28th day of March last, when it was found that an equal majority (five out of seven) from each was present ; and that, after comparing, in the most fraternal manner, their views and feelings in reference to the object for which they had been convened, they came unanimously to the following as the result of their united deliberations, to wit :

The Committees appointed respectively by the General Synod of the German Reformed Church and the General Synod of the Reformed Dutch Church, to confer upon the subject of bringing said churches into a closer connexion, and securing a united and more efficient co-operation in promoting the kingdom of our common Lord

upon earth, after a free, full, unreserved and Christian interchange of opinions, recommend to the churches which they severally represent, the adoption of the following articles :

I. While they do not feel that the condition of the two churches would warrant at present an entire amalgamation into one, they earnestly recommend the increased cultivation of that affectionate intercourse which now so happily obtains between them.

II. That a general convention be held, triennially, in some central place, composed of thirty-six ministers and elders—an equal number of each—one third of whom shall be from the Reformed Dutch Church, and two-thirds from the German Reformed Church, (embracing the two Synods,) to be appointed in such manner as the Synods of said churches shall determine, and that the first meeting be held on the second Thursday of August, 1844, at ten o'clock A. M., at Harrisburgh, Pa.

III. The convention of delegates from said churches shall possess no judicial or legislative powers, but shall be purely advisory in suggesting such measures as shall, with the divine blessing, best promote the interests of religion both at home and abroad, and that said delegates report the proceedings of the convention to their respective churches.

IV. That in order to provide more effectually a stated ministry among the people of the respective churches, especially in the states beyond the Ohio river, they recommend that when too feeble to maintain the gospel separately, they cordially unite with each other in the support of a minister of either church, and select for themselves such ecclesiastical relation with either church, as to them may seem meet.

V. That the General Synod of the Protestant Reformed Dutch Church do regard the great lack of ministerial help in their sister church as presenting strong claims upon their Christian sympathy, and do cordially recommend to the youth who may be educated in their Theological Seminary to direct their attention to said church, as affording in their judgment one of the most promising and inviting fields for ministerial usefulness.

Signed,

Bernard C. Wolf,  
Benj. S. Schneek,  
Elias Heiner,  
Jos. F. Berg,  
John C. Bucke,

John Knox,  
John Ludlow,  
Thos. M. Strong,  
Jas. B. Hardenbergh,  
Ab'm Van Nest.

All which is respectfully submitted,

JAS. B. HARDENBURGH,

*Chairman of the Committee appointed by the General Synod  
Of the Reformed Dutch Church.*

*New-York, May 29th, 1843.*

*Resolved,* That the plan above proposed be referred to the respective class is for their consideration, to report their opinion on the same, to the General Synod, at its next stated meeting.

The following report was received from the Rev. S. B. How, D. D., the delegate appointed to attend the last meeting of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church—which was referred to the Committee on Correspondence :—

To the General Synod of the Reformed Dutch Church :

The undersigned, your delegate to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, respectfully reports, that he attended the meetings of that body, in the Central Presbyterian Church, in the City of Philadelphia, during its sessions, which began on the 18th day of May. He was received with cordiality, and treated with kindness. The business of the Assembly was conducted with much dignity and courtesy, in debate and action ; and its members exhibited a strong attachment to sound doctrine, and to established order, and usages, and forms of government, with much zeal for the spread of the Gospel both at home and abroad.

Your delegate deems it his duty to mention the following, which is the third of a series of resolutions which were adopted during the session of the Assembly of May 29 :

*“Resolved, That it is the ardent desire of this church to maintain friendly and fraternal relations with all evangelical churches; and especially to be in more close and perfect union with those who adopt and maintain our own formularies, or others of kindred spirit and form.”*

Whether arrangements for a closer and more perfect union might not advantageously be made between our and the Old School Presbyterian Church is a question which, with the utmost deference and respect, is submitted to General Synod.

SAMUEL B. HOW.

*New-Brunswick, June 5th, 1843.*

Twelve copies of the Minutes of the last session of the General Synod of the German Reformed Church were received and laid upon the table.

The following report was received from the delegates appointed to attend the last General Synod of the German Reformed Church:—

To the General Synod of the Reformed Dutch Church:

The undersigned, delegates to the Synod of the German Reformed Church, beg to state, that, in October last, they attended the session of that body, which was held at Lewisburgh, Pa. Your delegates were kindly received, and were much gratified at the display of fraternal affection for our church. The interesting state of things in the German Reformed Church, and their forward movement in advocacy of the great doctrines of the Reformation, promise most favorable results to the interests of Christ's kingdom.

C. VAN CLEEF,  
WM. H. CAMPBELL.

*Albany, June 12, 1843.*

The Rev. Nicolas Murray, of the Presbyterian Church, appeared in Synod, and having produced testimonials of his appointment, took his seat as a corresponding delegate from the General Assembly.

The following report was received from the delegate to the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church, which was referred to the Committee on Correspondence:

**To the General Synod of the Protestant Reformed Dutch Church :**

The undersigned, delegate to the Reformed Presbyterian Synod, respectfully reports—That he has attended the meeting of that body, in the city of Pittsburgh, on the fourth Monday of May, 1843. He was received with great cordiality, and treated during his continuance in Synod, with respect and warm affection. An hour was appointed, during their sessions, for the delegate to make any communications, or any representation of the state of the Reformed Dutch Church. The time allotted was occupied in presenting a number of copies of the Minutes of General Synod, and in stating, with care and precision, all the statistics of our denomination ; the condition of our literary and theological institutions—our mode of receiving ministers into our body—the state of our various benevolent boards—the different funds belonging to our whole denomination—the general harmony, orthodoxy and piety of our church—and the great degree of prosperity which God has granted in our bounds during the past year. A vote of thanks was recorded on their journal, on account of the representations given ; and the delegate was responded to, on behalf of the Synod, by Rev. Dr. M'Masters, Chairman of the Committee of Correspondence ; and in taking leave of the body, the delegate was affectionately addressed, by a recorded vote, by the President of the Synod. And your delegate is happy to bear testimony to the talents, soundness of faith, order and piety which distinguish this small but respectable branch of the Redeemer's kingdom.

Thus far the delegate considers it his duty to report in fulfilling his commission. More, however, appears to be necessary in order to convey to this Synod the nature, prospects and results of the present correspondence. The Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America, usually called Covenanters, because of a peculiarity in their organization and history, has consisted of about sixty churches in this country. For a variety of causes, this respectable body, a few years since, has divided, each styling itself the Reformed Presbyterian Synod, and at present great alienation exists

between the two sections. The body with which the Reformed Dutch Church maintains correspondence, is the smallest division of the original Covenanters in North America, embracing about twenty-five churches and twenty pastors. This body is divided into five presbyteries, necessarily small, and scattered over many states of the Union, the majority lying beyond the Alleghany Mountains.

This body is at present composed of men of more than ordinary powers, and is a sound, united and pious denomination, containing the following distinctive peculiarities: opposition to human composition psalmody, and a strict adherence to a literal version of the Psalms of David—rigid close communion—a system of covenanting distinct from a profession of faith and church relationship—and certain application of divine truth and laws to civil governments and civil relations.

These peculiarities separate the Reformed Presbyterian from the Reformed Dutch Synod in all communion of ordinances, nor is it any part of the order of that body to invite to the communion-table any Christian of any other Christian denomination. On the Sabbath preceding the opening of the Reformed Presbyterian Synod, the Lord's Supper was administered in the city of Pittsburgh, in Dr. Black's Church, in part for the social communion of the assembled ministers of the body. In *fencing* the table, the presiding pastor assigned the reason why that body could not invite Christians of any other denomination to their communion, viz: the fact that all evangelical churches, including the Reformed Dutch Church, are living in something wrong, and wrong to such a degree, as to require repentance or discipline, providing Christians of other denominations were members of their own body. Your delegate being rejected from the communion-table, felt humbled, and regarded the Reformed Dutch Church humbled and rejected, and he hesitated long whether he should present the testimonials of his appointment, or return to the bosom of his own church.

The delegate perceives no signs at present of any closer union between these bodies; indeed, there are strong causes which operate unfavorable to any nearer union; and in view of all the cir-

cumstances belonging to the present correspondence, your delegate considers it unwise, unsocial and inexpedient longer to appoint delegates to the Reformed Presbyterian Synod ; and considers, that due respect and love for that body may be manifested by the Reformed Dutch Church, by presenting annually a few copies of the Minutes of our Synod, until the Reformed Presbyterian Church shall give to our ministers and people the same communion in ordinances as the Protestant Reformed Dutch Church of North America extends to that body, and to other Christian denominations.

All which is respectfully submitted,

J. B. STEELE.

*Guilderland, June 12, 1843.*

The Committee on Correspondence reported, and their report was adopted, and is as follows :—

The Committee on Correspondence report—The only papers referred to them are letters from the Delegates of the German Reformed Church, the report of the Rev. S. B. How, D.D., the delegate of this Synod to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, and the report of the delegate to the Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church. The letters received from the German Reformed Church, are from the Secundi elected to attend this Session of our General Synod. They state that one of the Primarii, the Rev. Mr. Cares, has been removed by death since his appointment ; and that the other, the Rev. Mr. Schneck, has been called to visit Europe on important business. The Secundi, while they express their profound regret that they are unable to be present with us, at the same time manifest the deepest interest in the welfare and prosperity of our church, and a strong desire to have the ties of fellowship between the two Synods close and more intimate.

In view of these statements, the committee recommend the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That this Synod sympathize with their sister church in the afflictive dispensation of Providence, which has removed from



his field of labour, the Rev. Mr. Cares, and that they cordially reciprocate their kind feelings, and wish to cultivate the most fraternal intercourse.

The committee also recommend to Synod the resolution contained in the report of the delegate to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church.

*“ Resolved, That it is the ardent desire of this church to maintain friendly and fraternal relations with all evangelical churches ; and especially to be in close and perfect union with those who adopt and maintain our own formularies, or others of kindred spirit and form.”*

The report of the delegate to the Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church, suggests the propriety of reconsidering the articles of correspondence which now exist between that body and the General Synod. It appears, that while they profess a friendly spirit, and wish to cultivate a formal ecclesiastical correspondence, they entertain such views on the subject of Psalmody, the civil relations of the Church, and the terms of Communion, as to exclude the members of our churches from their Communion Table, and our delegate from that Christian fellowship which seems to be indispensable in accomplishing the purposes of such a correspondence.

Your committee, therefore, recommend the following resolution :—

*Resolved, That while this Synod is pleased to hear of the harmony, orthodoxy, and zeal of the Reformed Presbyterian Church, and still wishes to maintain with them social and affectionate intercourse, it is deemed inexpedient to send delegates for that purpose, as all the benefits of this correspondence can be enjoyed by a reciprocal interchange of their annual minutes, and other friendly acts of kindness and confidence.*

Respectfully submitted,

RANSFORD WELLS.

The Committee on Correspondence, having reported a double

number of persons from whom to elect delegates to the corresponding churches, the Synod proceeded to the election, when the following were chosen :—

To the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church—Rev. James Romeyn, *Primarius*, and the Rev. Thomas M. Strong, D.D., *Secundus*.

To the General Synod of the German Reformed Church—Rev. Alexander M. Mann, and Abraham I. Switz, *Primarii*, and Rev. John P. Knox, and Talbot W. Chambers, *Secundi*.

#### ARTICLE VI.

##### *Synodical Reports on the State of the Churches.*

In conformity with the standing regulation, the Synod spent a part of the afternoon of the first day of the session in religious exercises, conducted agreeably to a plan previously reported by a committee of arrangement, consisting of the Rev. James Romeyn, and Peter Labagh ; and the Elder, George Zabriskie.

*Resolved*, That a Synodical Prayer-meeting be held every morning during the present session, at 6 o'clock, in the Lecture Room of the Third Reformed Dutch Church, in this city.

The Committee on the State of Religion reported, and their report was adopted, and is as follows :—

The Committee on the State of Religion would report as follows :—

It may be often a matter of gratification, as it is always a matter of duty to God, to the church, and to ourselves, to inquire into the success with which the means of grace are attended, that our minds may be suitably humbled, or inspired with thankfulness and praise, and that we may be directed in our prayers, as well as encouraged in the faith, and stimulated in the labors of the Gospel.

From the statistical tables which have been sent up by the several classes, and from the reports of the Particular Synods, it appears that religion has been very greatly and very extensively revived during the past year. It has been a year of the right hand of the Most High. The number of persons reported as received on confession of their faith, is 650 less than were received in 1832; it is nearly 500 more than were received in 1833; but if we except those two years of special revival, it is within a fraction double the number received in any one year, certainly within the last thirteen years, and probably during the whole previous history of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church in North America. Still let it be observed, that many of the churches reported as enjoying extensive revivals have not published the numbers received, and several of those churches had not yet begun to reap the fruit of their revivals at the date of their reports, so that the statistical tables fall far short of exhibiting the full extent of the work of grace, even as far as relates to accessions to the full communion of the church.

But when we contemplate a refreshing from the Lord's presence, besides the number of conversions, we must speak of the quickening of the Lord's people—of their establishment in the faith of the gospel—of their livelier sense of divine things—the increase of a spirit of prayer—of zeal—of Christian obedience—and brotherly love. Nor are we forbidden to make some account of the abatement of prevailing sins, and of awakened attention in the public mind to the word of God, the preached gospel and other means of religious instruction. Having our eye, then, upon accessions to the churches, a quickening of the graces of God's children, and the awakening of attention in the minds of the unconverted, the committee are decidedly of opinion, that the work of God has been revived to a far greater extent than a mere inspection of the reports would indicate.

The Synodical reports expressly mention the following churches as especially favoured, viz.:—Franklin-street and Greenwich, in New-York, Tarrytown, Unionville, Westfarms, Bushwick, Fairfield, Bergen, Bergen Neck, English Neighbourhood, Little-Falls, Stone

house Plains, First and Second Churches of Totowa, Saddle River, Newtown, Williamsburg, Oysterbay, Centre Church of Brooklyn, First Church of Philadelphia, Mt. Pleasant, Roxborough, North and Southampton, Rhinebeck, Germantown, Linlithgow, Greenport, Poughkeepsie, Hopewell, First, Second and Third Churches of Albany, Cohoes, West Troy, Union, Niskayuna, Schenectady, Second Church of Rotterdam, Princetown, Nassau, Kinderhook, Hudson, Mellenville, Middleburgh, Sharon, St. Johnsville, Fort Plain, Canajoharie, Bowman's Creek, Stone Arabia, Herkimer, Kingston, Esopus, Bloomingdale, in Ulster, Warwarsing, Ellenville, New-Prospect, Walden, Montgomery, Walpack, Leeds, Second Church Coxsackie, Waterford, Fort Miller, Jackson, Northumberland. Here are sixty-six churches named, while the classes declare that God's favor has not been confined to these. One report says, "We have reason to rejoice in view of the general prosperity of the churches within our bounds. Though all the churches have shared in some degree in the blessing, yet some have received a richer portion from the hand of the sovereign Lord. In most of these churches the work is still in progress." Another says, "the churches generally are in a prosperous state." Another, that "Almost all the churches have been favored with indications of mercy from on high." These are specimens of the reports from below, and it is needless to multiply extracts.

In his dealings with the church, during the year, we think the Lord has been giving new testimony to the incalculable importance of early religious training ; for our churches have been reaping the fruits of past labors in Sunday-school, Bible-class, and catechetical instruction. In view of this testimony, let parents remember that their influence is mighty, and let pastors, consistories and churches exercise new diligence in feeding the lambs of the flock, and gathering in the little ones, and the youth of the world, to inculcate upon their minds lessons of truth concerning God and his law, concerning sin and a Saviour, concerning their souls and an eternity to come. During the year God has owned and honored his truth. As by his frowns, so sometimes, as during this year, by his

smiles, God will make us know that the chaff is nothing compared with the wheat ; that it is his word, which is like as a fire and like a hammer that breaketh the rock in pieces.

In connection with these remarks, we offer a reflection concerning measures. The great fear in regard to measures of human appointment is, that they may directly interfere with the appointments of God, divert attention from the great duty of coming to Christ, and lead many to mistake that for conversion, which not only falls far short of it, but which is of an entirely different nature, and belongs to another order of things. We believe the revivals of the year past have been distinguished by a reliance, not upon measures, but upon the truth most simply presented and inculcated. On this subject we would quote the language of one of the reports before us : “ Though the means of grace have been multiplied, and efforts encouraged more than usual, no new measures or expedients have been resorted to, hasty and indiscriminate admissions to the church have been guarded against, and previous to admission, the hopeful converts attended a course of lectures on the compendium of the Christian religion, which they were required to commit to memory.”

We offer one more reflection : it is in relation to the continuance and progress of a work of grace among us. Why should such a work cease ? To have been revived is matter of joy ; but to have relapsed, so as to need to be revived again, is matter of grief and humiliation. Let us endeavour so to arrange our plans of labour as to be instant in season, out of season, confident in the belief that our labour shall not be in vain ; let us be fervent and unceasing in supplication to God, that his cause, once revived, may live on—may, without abatement flourish, and flourish more and more, until crowned with a glorious, complete, and final triumph.

Having spoken of the increase of church members, it may not be uninteresting to notice the increase in the number of our churches and ministers during the year. The number of newly organized churches reported is thirteen, of which five are in the Western States. The number of ministers reported, as added, is twenty, of

whom nine came from other denominations, the remainder having been reared in the Theological Seminary, at New-Brunswick. The number of those of our ministers who have left us and gone to other denominations is two. Only one death is reported as having occurred in the ministry. The Rev. Isaac P. Stryker, missionary to Borneo, a brother beloved for the Gospel's sake, and peculiarly endeared to some of us, in the morning of a life which seemed full of promise, while on his way to the designated scene of his earthly labours, was taken to his eternal home; and God thus admonishes us diligently to do his work, and hold ourselves in readiness to be called to our final account.

If now we look beyond our bounds, our hearts are cheered by indications of the presence of the Lord in every branch of the Christian church. Notwithstanding the aboundings of error, delusion, and superstition, we believe that the influence of truth is extending, the triumphs of the cross multiplying, while the host of the Lord's people is increasing.

We would thank God for the measure of prosperity which has attended all our institutions during the past year. But in this connection it is proper to speak of one effect of a refreshing from on high, which is yet to be developed; we mean the exercise of an enlarged liberality in contributing to the religious and benevolent operations of the church. It is true, some of our classes report favorably on this subject, but the embarrassments of our two Boards of Missions and the Board of Education indicate a lamentable deficiency, which we fear is not satisfactorily accounted for by the proverbial pressure of the times. We should trust that such has been the experience of many that they will feel themselves called upon to present their thank-offerings unto the Lord, and we hope that all the professed people of God will remember not only that it is more blessed to give than to receive, but that all that they have in their hands belongs to Him who hath said—Occupy till I come.

During the present session, the Synod has been addressed by an agent in behalf of the claims of the Christian Sabbath. The object for which he is laboring, is one in which every friend of religion

cannot but feel, and on proper occasions may be expected to express a deep interest. We believe that the sanctification of one day in seven is indispensable to the very existence of religion, and that the neglect of such observance leads not only to irreligion, but to crime—that nature and revelation both teach that man has of *right* but six days in which to do his own work, and that he cannot take more without exposing himself to the peculiar displeasure of God—that man's highest, social, civil and religious interests demand the observance of the Lord's Day—and that, to use the agent's words, "the loading and unloading of vessels; the sailing of vessels from the harbor; the running of stage-coaches, rail-cars and canal boats, and the travelling in them; the visiting of post-offices, reading-rooms, and other places for secular reading, business or amusement,—are not only unnecessary, but are violations of the law of God, and ought to be abandoned throughout the community." And we trust that all the pastors of the churches, and all Christian parents and teachers, will aim to do their duty in inculcating the law, and enforcing the observance of the Christian Sabbath.

Respectfully submitted,

R. D. VAN KLEEK, *Chairman.*

## CLASSIS OF NEW-YORK.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	Census.				Communicants.				Bapt.		S. Schools.	Post Office Ad-dresses.
		Number of Fam- ilies.	Total of the Con- gregation.	In communion per last Report.	Un- Confessed.	On Cer- tificates.	Un- Suspended.	Dead.	Total in Com- munion.	Infants.	Adults.		
New York,	{ John Knox, W. C. Brownlee, T. De Witt, T. E. Vermilye, J. B. Hardenbergh.	487	3600	1263	39	46	23	39	1318	56	11	6	310 Fourth st. N. York.
Franklin street,	G. H. Fisher,	150		209	30	47	12	4	270	26	6	1	57 Amity st.
Brouse street,	L. S. Demund,			133	8	10	13	1	137	8	1	1	220 Ninth st.
Houston street,	N. J. Marcus, S. C.	300	1500	449	30	33	15	11	486	30	2	1	10 Albion place,
Greenwich	E. H. May.	60	300	60	6	2	6	6	61	7	1	1	91 Varick st.
Twenty-first street,	E. Van Alen,	55	450	117	2	6	4	3	81	9	1	1	145 Greene st.
Bloomingsdale,	R. L. Schoonmaker,	120	450	117	2	6	4	1	121	5	1	1	100 48 Macdougal st.
Fordham,	P. J. Van Pelt.	67	314									2	277 46 Hammond st.
West-Farms,	B. V. Collins	36	125	38	10	2	4	9	229	8	14	1	69 24 West 22d st.
Tarrytown,	G. Debois,	160	500	148	80	8	4	2	229	8	14	1	203 West 20th st.
Unionville,	W. S. Moore,	56	250	65	28	1	3	2	92	3	14	1	Harlaem, West-Farms.
Staten-Island,	J. Brownee,			164	26	3	3	2	188	30	5	1	90 West-Farms.
Gen. Reformed Church,	Vacant,											1	125 Tarrytown.
Ger. Evang. M.Ch.	I. C. Guldin,	150	300					43	3	2	7	2	65 Cityville, Staten Island.
Greenville,	V. M. Hulbert,											2	134 Second st. N.Y.
Broadway,	J. Lillie,											250	Yonkers West. Co.

Ministers without charge—Rev. C. C. Verneule, G. Bourne, I. Mulligan, I. S. Ebaugh, James Buckham, Wm. Boyce, and Philip Milledoler, D. D.



## SOUTH CLASSIS OF NEW-YORK.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	Census.			Communicants.							Bapt. C. & B.C.			S. Schools.			Post Office Ad- dresses.
		Number of Fam- lies.	Total of the Con- gregation.	In communion per last Report.	Rec'd On Confession	Un Certificate	Dismissed.	Suspended.	Died	Total now in Com- munion	Number of Cate- chumens.	Number in Biblical Instruction.	Number of Schools	Total Number of Scholars.	Average Number of Scholars.			
Tompkinsville, South Dutch, Market street, Washington Square, Manhattan, Bushwick, Courtlandown,	John E. Miller, John M. Macauley, Isaac Ferris, F. F. Cornell, S. H. Meeker, S. C. C. D. Westbrook,	75 120 300 160 93 83	375 700 1300 1000 380	106 210 415 203 132 126	10 11 17 10 18 34	2 20 13 10 7 5	2 5 19 19 10 1	5 19 19 19 10 1	1 1 4 2 2 6	119 235 423 209 145 138	34 4 11 17 32 16	2 2 6 4 3 16	1 1 39 1 115 1	1 180 287 130 250 90	75 120 287 130 200 80			

## CLASSIS OF NEW-BRUNSWICK.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	Census.														
		Number of Fam- ilies.	Total of the Con- gregation.	131	132	133	134	135	136	137	138	139				
New-Brunswick,	S. B. How,	170	975	236	3	3	131	3	26	3	100	60	6	275	Six Mile Run.	
Six Mile Run,	J. C. Seam,	127	250	250	9	3	13	5	23	15	2	160	270	5	250	190 Millstone.
Hillsborough,	J. L. Zabrackie,	165	1000	329	13	14	7	6	34	20	4	100	40	4	200	Somerville.
Karlan,	A. Mesler,	101	505	175	25	15	12	2	20	12	4	60	72	5	175	Do.
2d Somerville,	T. W. Chambers,	223	1000	243	40	5	6	4	37	23	5	154	60	1	67	Pluckemin.
Bedminster,	Geo. Schenck,	100	445	64	2	2	3	1	94	9						North Branch.
North Branch,	J. K. Campbell,	85			2	2	3	2	61							Whitehouse.
Rockaway,	James Ottemon,	150			17	2	3	1		15	1					Lebanon.
Lebanon,	R. Van Amburgh,	50	300	80	9	5	1		93	12	2	7	16	1	30	Spotswood.
Spotswood,	W. R. S. Betts,	130	650	165	8	25		4	144	32	3	50	25	1		Freehold.
Freehold,	A. A. Marselus,	75	400	104	6	5	1	1	113	8	1	40	30	3	130	100 New-Brunswick.
Middlebush,	J. A. Van Doren,	116	550	93	6	6	1	1	103	8	1					Holmtele.
Middletown,	Wm. Riley,	60	250		7	1			60	4	2					60 Middletown.
Middletown village,	A. C. Millspeugh,															Freehold.
Middletown,	Vacant,															
Griggstown,	Vacant,															
2d Church Freehold,																
2d New-Brunswick,																

Ministers without charge—J. S. Mabon, J. I. Schultz, J. T. Beckman, J. V. Morris, S. Quidander, P. Stryker, J. C. Van Liew, I. A. Staats, Prof. Proedts, J. B. Lord, pastor elect of the Church of Griggstown.

CLASSIS OF BERGEN.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	Census.		Communicants.							Bapt. C. & B.C. S. Schools.		Post Office Ad- dresses.					
		Number of fami- lies.	Total of the Con- gregation	In Communion per last Report.	Recd	UnConfession	Un Certificate	Dismissed.	Suspended.	Died.	Total in Commu- nion.	Infants.		Adults.	Number of Cate- chumens.	Number in Biblical Instruction.	Number of Schools	Number of Scho- lars.
Bergen	B. C. Taylor,	285	1250	280	38	9	11	2	6	30*	32	6	75	35	2	210	10	Bergen, Hudson Co. N.J.
English Neighborhood,	P. Duryea,	41	181	94	20	2	2	46*	4	66	7	2	16		1	30		Eng. Neighborhood, "
Hackensack,	A. H. Warner,	125	550	122	2	1	3		2	120	11		30	20	1	60		Hackensack, "
Schraalenberg,	C. Blauvelt,	170	635		4	2	1		3	128	4		90					Kinderkamack, "
Belleville,	J. Garretson, S. C.	152	790	182	7	2	2		1	187	9		152	131	3	269	215	Bellville, Essex Co. "
Jersey-City,	M. Lusk,				7	14	14			116	16	2	80	40	2	120	80	Jersey City, "
Bergen Neck,	I. C. Boice,	106	550	86	12				1	97	25			20			90	Cor. Nassau & Ann N. Y
Newark,	J. Scott,	170	960	232	2	11	7		1	237	5	1	130	45	1	230	190	Newark, N. J.
Clintonville,	J. L. Chapman,	50	260	25	7		8			40	6	2	30	25	1	70	50	Camptown, Esx. Co. N. J
New-Durham,	Vacant,	39								45								

Rev. R. Wells, Financial Secretary of the Boards of General Synod.

\* Dismissed for the purpose of uniting with the newly organized church at New-Durham.

# CLASSIS OF PASSAIC.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	Census.					Communicants.					Bapt. C. & B.C.			S. Schools.			Post Office Ad-dresses.
		Number of Fam- lies.	Total of the Con- gregation.	In communion per last Report.	UnConfession	Rec'd On Certificate	Dismissed.	Suspended.	Died.	Total in Commu- nion.	Infants.	Adults.	Number of Cate- chumens.	Number in Bibli- cal Instruction.	Number of Schools	Number of Scho- lars.	Average Number of Scholars.	
Stonehouse Plains, Pompton,	E. S. Hammond,	50	250	29	20	3	3	1	2	52	3	6	35	25	1	60	40	Pompton, N. J.
Pompton Plains,	H. Doolittle,	193	1110	147	2	2	3	1	4	145	5		50	10	3	100		Pompton Plains, N. J.
Pompton Plains,	G. C. Schanck,	170	940	138	15	3	1		2	151	22		30		3	100		
Ponds,	W. I. Thompson,	90	550	45	2	2	2		2	45	14		18		1			
Preakness,	Vacant,						1											
Wyckoff,	W. I. Thompson,	110	670	62			1			60	7		30		1	70		Caldwell, N. J.
Fairfield,	J. Wilson, S. C.	120	600	124						134	10				1	100		
Montville,	Vacant,	129	800	118									50		1			
Little Falls,	J. Wilson,	110	550	31	1	1	1			32					1	60		

Minister without charge—Z. H. Kuyper.

## CLASSIS OF PARAMUS.

Ministers without charge—J. J. Chrywie, P. M. Brett, laboring in the island St. Thomas.

## CLASSIS OF LONG-ISLAND.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	Census.				Communicants.				Bapt. C. & B.C.		S. Schools.		Post-Office Ad-dresses.
		Number of Fam- ilies.	Total of the Con- gregation.	In communion per last Report.	On Confession.	Rec'd On Confession.	Dismissed.	Suspended.	Died.	Total in Commu- nion		Number of Scho- lars.	Average number of Scholars.	
Brooklyn,	M. W. Dwight,	120	1050	108 14	50 13 18	1	1	1	1	130		1	130	Brooklyn,
New-Utrecht.	R. Ormiston Currie, S.C.	85	781	76 1	115	1	1	1	1	130		1	130	New-Utrecht,
Gravesend,	A. I. Labagh,	100*	781	76 1	115	1	1	1	1	76		1	100	Do.
Flatbush,	T. M. Strong,	100	131	4 6 2	1 2	1	1	1	1	136		1	112	Flatbush,
Flatlands and	{ J. Abner Baldwin,	70	98	2 1 2	1 4	1	1	1	1	94		1	95	{ Flatbush.
New-Lotus,	{ W. H. Van Doren,	50	63	1 4	1	1	1	1	1	73		1	69	{ Flatbush.
Williamsburgh,	{ G. I. Garretson,	82	108 14	2	1	1	1	1	1	107		1	185	140 Williamsburgh.
Newtown and	{ J. Schoonmaker,	90	1050	171 10	1	1	1	1	1	119		1	120	100 Newtown and
Jamaica,	Vacant	160	240	76 1	115	1	1	1	1	174		1	112	50 Jamaica.
North Hempstead,	Thomas B. Gregory,	51*	350	84 30	1	1	1	1	1	61		1	55	Manhasset.
Oyster Bay,	J. Brodhead,	75	110 17 23	3	1	1	1	1	1	111		1	55	Jericho.
Central Brooklyn,	A. Hamilton Bishop,	112	333	5 16	1	1	1	1	1	147 18		1	163	77 Brooklyn.
Astoria,	M. V. Schoonmaker,	62	25	7 3	3	1	1	1	1	54 11		1	76	50 Astoria.
East New-York,	S. M. Woodbridge,	55	275	23 13 21	1	1	1	1	1	31		1	50	45 East New-York.
Somb R. D. Brooklyn,	Vacant,	50								57 11		1	70	Brooklyn.
Fourth do.	Vacant,									15		1		Do.
Flushing,		20								1		1		Flushing.

Ministers without charge—Wm. R. Gordon, stated supply at Flushing, and Isaac P. Labagh. • Report of last year.

## CLASSIS OF PHILADELPHIA.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	Census.		Communicants.				Bapt.	C. & B. C.		S. Schools.	Post Office Ad- dresses.			
		Number of Fam- ilies.	Total of the Con- gregation.	In Communion per last Report.	Recd: On Confession.	Dismissed.	Suspended.		Total in Commu- nion.	Number of Com- municants.			Number in Bib- lical Instruction.	Total Number of Scholars.	Average Number of Scholars.
Readington, 1st Ch. Philadelphia,	J. Van Liew,	200	1000	244	4	3	5	6	240	100	5	225	200	Readington, N. J.	
2d Do.	C. C. Vanarsdale,	250	1250	434	33	2	5	4	484	150	3	450		Philadelphia.	
3d Do.	Vacant,	130	750	102	20	9	6	1	155	28	28	265	200	Do.	
Mt. Pleasant,	J. W. Bethune,	75	344	82	58	2			138	30	35	2	120	Whitehouse, N. J.	
Hartington,	J. R. Vanarsdale,	132	600	263	6	4	17	3	251	50	50	330	270	Hartington, "	
New-Shannock	P. Lullow,	200	1000	229	13	10	3		242	120	60	3		Flagtown, "	
N. & S. Hampton,	G. Luitow,	135	600	104	170	5	2	6	363	22	86	60	4	165	Newtown, Pa.
Blawenbergh,	A. O. Halsey,	90	500	184	9	3	2	2	194	7	45	4	160	145	Blawenbergh, N. J.
1st Trenton,	J. R. Talmage, S. C.	53			4	4	2	1	64	3	1	1	35	35	Trenton, N. J.
Manyunk and Roxborough,	C. P. Wack,				6							50			Manyunk, Pa.
Clover-Bill,	R. A. Quin,				42										

Ministers without charge—John Lullow, D. D., Amzi Babitt, T. A. Amerman, S. A. Bumstead, H. B. Stryker. Licentiate R. C. Clark.







## CLASSIS OF ALBANY.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	Census.				Communicants.				Bapt., C. & E.C.				S. Schools.				Post Office Ad-dresses.
		Number of Mem-bers.	Total of the Con-gregation.	In Communion per last Report.	On Confession.	Un Licentiate.	Recd.	Dismissed.	Suspended.	Un Comm.	Total in Commu-nion.	Infants.	Averts.	Number of Cat-echumens.	Number in Biblical Instruction.	Number of Schol-ars.	Number of Scho-lars.	Average Number of Schol-ars.
Ch. of Albany,	Duncan	264	1370	382	53	6	3	3	1	436	20	9	110	2	900	140	900	Albany.
do	L. N. W.	238	1383	482	111	19	23	1	1	577	24	20	175	2	270	145	270	do
do	W. H. L.	110	550	140	24	10	3	3	3	198	12	6	100	75	1	150	100	do.
Union,	S. V. E.	125	734	113	86	5	2	2	2	201	14	98	7	30	3	120	110	Bethlehem.
Salem,	Vacant,	91	445	98	7	7	6	6	6	155	1	16	1	30	3	120	110	Salem.
Bethlehem,	Ralph Willis,	150	800	133	18	1	6	1	1	30	10	7	80	90	2	180	100	Cedar Hill.
Westerlo,	J. A. H. Cornell,	100	500	133	18	1	6	1	1	30	10	7	80	90	2	180	100	Westerlo.
Bera,	J. Kueskern,	72	440	90	90													East Bera.
Knox,	do	115	600	332	13	9	20			354	10	7	80	90	2	180	100	West Troy.
West Troy,	C. H. Gregory,																	
Coeymans,	Vacant,																	
New-Baltimore,	do	60	424	32	16	6	2	1	1	72	10							Clarksville.
Onisquethaw,	S. Van Santrood,	40	200	32	16	6	2	1	1	50	5	1						
Coboes,	G. McP. Myers,																	
Jerusalem,																		

Ministers without charge—Rev. J. Van Buren, R. Porter. Candidate T. F. Wyckoff.

## CLASSIS OF SCHENECTADY.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	Communicants.										Bapt. C. & B.C.		S. Schools.		Post Office Ad- dresses.			
		Census.		In communion per last Report.		Rec'd		Dismissed.	Suspended.	Died	Total now in Com- munion.	Infants.	Adults.	Number of Cate- chumens.	Number in Biblical Instruction.		Number of Schol- ars.	Total Number of Scholars.	Average Number of Scholars.
Schenectady,	J. Van Vechten,	200	1200	401	30	1	13			6	420	28	6		50		200	170	Schenectady.
Amity,	Vacant,	71	353	94	2	2	1			1	97	4							Vischer's Ferry.
1st Ch. Glenville,	Wm. Ingalls,	162	860	263	16	4	1			5	277	10							Glenville.
2d Ch. Glenville,	A. B. Crocker,	141	684	170	2	4	3			1	172	3		80		5	125		Schenectady.
Helderburch,	John B. Steele,																		Guilderland Cent.
Niskayuna,	H. A. Raymond,	135	780	244	62	2	1			4	303	20			50	3	100		Watervliet Centre.
1st Ch. Rotterdam,	Vacant,	117	550	100	3	3	2				105	4							Rotterdam.
2d Ch. Rotterdam,	John Nott,	77	450	120	50	2	8			1	141	7			80	3	20		Schenectady.
Boght,	Wm. Pitcher,	65	300	87	7	4					98	7		50		1	60		Coboes.
Princeton,	W. P. Davis,																		
Day,	Vacant,																		

Ministers without charge—Rev. A. Yates, D. D., J. A. Yates, D. D., Abm. J. Swits, S. C., R. J. Blair.

## CLASSIS OF RENNELAER.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	Canada.										Bapt.	Post Office Ad- dresses.
		Number of Fam- lies.	Total of the Con- gregation.	In communion per last Report.	UnConsecrated	Un- certificates	Dismissed.	Suspended.	Died	Total now in Com- munion.	Infants.		
Claverack,	R. Slayter,	317	1560	335	5	215				322	6	1	Claverack.
Nassau,	E. Holmes,	160	790	281	6	6				234	5	1	Nassau.
Mellenville,	J. C. Vandervoort,	90	500	182	42	3	4			200	5		Schodack Landing.
Schodack,	John Grey,			249	3	1	4			249	14		Kinderhook.
Kinderhook,	Benj. Van Zandt,	300	1000	411	16	5	1			418	9		Hudson.
Hudson,	J. Gosman,												East Greenbush.
Greenbush,	E. P. Stimson,	250	125	227	34	4	2			5	318	9	Deforestville.
Blooming Grove,	J. Middlemas,	56	280	60	3	3				6	63	4	Stuyvesant.
Stuyvesant,	A. N. Kille, S. C.	100	500	106	3	2	6						
Ghent	P. S. Wynkoop,												
Hilldale,	J. S. Himrod,												
Chatham,	E. Porter,												

Ministers without charge—Rev. Dr. Sikes and Henry Heermance.

## CLASSIS OF SCHOHARIE.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	Census.		S. Schools.	Post-Office Ad- dresses.
		Number of Fam- ilies.	Total of the Con- gregation.	Number of Scho- lars.	Average number of Scholars.
Schoharie,	S. Robertson,	155	900	2	Schoharie, C. H.
1st Church, Bern,	R. D. Van Kleeck, S.C.	140	900	150	Bern.
Beaverdam,	do	120	720	1	do
Middleburgh,	Vacant,	70	400	90	Middleburgh.
Gilboa,	C. Bogardus,				
Conesville,	do				
New-Rhinebeck,	Wm. Loehnd,	80	300		Lawyersville.
Cobleskill,	do			35	Cobleskill.
Sharon,	A. E. Chittenden.	100	525	30	Gardnersville.
Breakabin,					Breakabin.
Schoharie Mountain,					Punchkill.

Ministers without charge—Rev. Ellen Doty, Missionary to Bernes, Hart E. Waring, Missionary to Michigan, James E. Quaw,  
and Jacob R. H. Hasbrouck.

CLASSIS OF MONTGOMERY.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	Communicants.										Bapt. C. & B.C. S. Schools.			Post Office Ad-dresses.				
		Census.		In communion per last Report.		Recd.		Dismissed.	Suspended.	Lied.	Total in Communion.		Infants.	Adults.	Number of Catechumens.	Number in Biblical Instruction.	Number of Schools.	Number of Scholars.	Average Number of Scholars.
		Number of Families.	Total of the Congregation.			On Confession.	On Certificate.												
St. Johnsville, Fort Plain, Canajoharie, Mohawk, Herkimer, Currytown, Mapletown, Glen, Auricville, Florida, Stone Arabia, Buel, Caughnawaga, Fultonville, Manheim, German Flats, Warren, Columbia, Frankfort, Ephrata,	A. H. Myers, S. Van Vechten, S. C. E. O. Dunning, J. L. Starks, S. S. J. Murphy, Thomas Frazer, do Chas. Jukes, do Jas. Stevenson, B. B. Westfall, Wm. Clark, S. S. David Dyer, J. P. Spinner, J. P. Pepper, J. L. Starks, S. S. John Grey, S. S.	130 130 95 100 200 60 70  100 150 61  80 56 100 300 100	650 780 400 1200    700 1000  400 400 500 300 450	202 95 60  77 50  185 208 127 52  56 300	32 40 50 4 123 10  8 35 45 10  7 38 2	1 8 8 18 2 3 1  5 3 6 6 1 1 1 6 1	1 5 7  2 3 1  5 3 6 1 1 1 1 3 6 1	    2 1 1  4 1 1 3 5 5 9	    2 2 1  4 1 1 3 5 5 9	233 136 111 22 350 88 50  184 239 168 63 115 63 60 60	16 10 3  3 1  13 32 220 6 5 8 12 8	16 12 2  26 3 1  1 1 2 20 6 5 8 12 8	160 75      50       20 60  30	2 1 1 1 2 1 1  2 1 1 1 1 1 1 5 100	80       65 75 65 50      100	St. Johnsville. Fort Plain. Canajoharie. Mohawk. Herkimer. Root. Canajoharie. Glen. do Minaville. Stone Arabia. Buel. Fonda. Fultonville. Manheim Centre. Herkimer. Mohawk. Columbia. Frankfort. Ephrata.			

Charlestown, Indian Cottage, Union Church, Marinville, Vacant.



CLASSIS OF ORANGE.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	Census.		Communicants.							Bapt.		U. & B. C.			S. Schools.			Post Office Ad- dresses.
		Number of Fam- ilies.	Total of the Con- gregation.	In Communion per last Report.	Recd.		Dismissed.	Suspended.	Died.	Total in Commu- nion.	Infants.	Adults.	Number of Cate- chumens.	Number in Bibl- ical Instruction.	Number of Schools	Total Number of Scholars.	Average Number of Scholars.		
					On Confession	On Certificate													
Berea, Montgomery, Shawangunk, New Prospect, Deerpark, Newburgh, Minisink, New Hurley, Walden, Wallpack, Bloomingburgh, Ellenville, Fallsburgh, Wurtsborough, Warwarsing,	J. B. Ten Eyck, S. C. Robert P. Lee, Jr. J. H. Bevier, J. T. Demarest, C. C. Elkinge, A. B. Van Zandt, J. Bookstaver Wm. Demarest, Chas. Whitehead, Robert Pitts, S. S. Vacant, S. B. Ayrea, J. C. Duryee, F. T. Drake, Jas. Demarest,	96 240 220 94 65 70 230 90 75 200	460 1300 1300 500 500 350 350 400 350 1000	116 437 183  500 42 158 32 20 63	5 14 5 12 2 3 26 10 27 6 60	12 12 3 5 12 17 3 4 4 6	4 12 5 2 4 5 5 3 2 1	1 1 1 1 1 1 3 1 1 1 2	5 8 1 3 1 1 1 1 1 1 2	112 442 185 130 54 79 165 59 29 127	7 33 26 5 6 9 18 2 21 21	5 1 1  70  2 3 3 2 17	60 146 120 40 70  100  42	50 132 83 45  30  30 10 56	2 6 2 2  1 1 2 1 2	70 228    160 40 189 50 115	50 203    140  99 40 70	Walden. Montgomery. Bruynswick. Ulaterville. Port Jarvis, Newburgh. Montague, N. J. New-Hurley. Walden. Delaware, Penn. Bloomingburgh. Ellenville. Woodbourne. Wurtsborough. Warwaring.	

Ministers without charge—Rev. Wm. Youngblood, Missionary to Borneo; and the Candidate, — Mills.



## CLASSIS OF GREENE.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	Census.		Communicants.				Bapt. C. & B. C. S. Schools.				Post Office Ad- dresses.
		Number of Fam- lies.	Total of the Con- gregation.	In Communion per 100.	Rec'd	Usur'd.	Used.	Total in Commu- nication.	Number of Cate- chumens.	Number in Biblical Instruction.	Number of Scholars.	
Catskill, Leeds, Kintston, 1st Ch. Coxsackie, 2d Ch. Coxsackie, Athens, Prattsville, Roxbury, Mooreville,	D. Morlock, J. Romeya, Vacant, J. Searle, W. Cabonne, S. C. J. Watson, E. Depuy, Vacant, do	180 60 59 70 105		130 90 107 413 110 140	6 15 7 2 16 6 2 2		1 1 1 1 1 1 2	20 97 40 126 15	5 1 8 2 7 2		960	Catskill, Leeds, Coxsackie, Coxsackie Landing. Athens. Prattsville.

# CLASSIS OF CAYUGA.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	Census.		Communicants.								Bapt. C. & B. C. S. Schools.			Post Office Ad- dresses.
		Number of Fam- ilies	Total of the Con- gregation.	In communion per last Report.	On Confession.	On Certificate.	Dismissed.	Suspended.	Died.	Total in Commu- nion.	Infants.	Adults.	Number of Cate- chumens.	Number in Bibli- cal Instruction.	
Geneva, Cardine, Ithaca, Arcadia, Cicero, Canistota, Utica, Cato, Jamesville, Tyre, Farmersville, Chittenango, Lysander, Mount Morris, SandjBank, Owasco, Buffalo, Lodi,	G. Abeel, Cor. Gates, J. C. F. Hoes, Wm. Turner, A. W. Seely, A. W. Rand, J. P. Knox, S. C., A. Hoffman,  Wm. Grey, Benj. Basler, Jas. Abell, Vacant, J. Hammond, Vacant, Wm. Evans, John Beattie, John A. Liddell,	90 150 52 52 45 140    105 110 35 100 246	 650  150 225 650    520 660 150 500 880	 179 20 54 51 191    82 105 32 149 225	9 4 11 12 2 4   5 8 2 3 7	4 1 4 4 6 22   5 7 3  2	6 4 1 3 1 13    3 3 1  2	 1 1  1    1 3  3 3  6	150 51 188 36 57 35 201   91 117 37 149 229	14 2 5 1 3 21    6 6 5 5 28	 1 1  2    1 1 2  2 3  3	 50 25  20 25   30   176	2 1 1 1 1 1   1 1  30  176	100 10 25 35 90   100 90  350	  

Ministers without charge—Rev. C. Mandeville, C. Brower, H. Mandeville, J. Schermerhorn, J. Beattie, A. Bennett, J. G. Tarbell, J. M. Scribner.



# SUMMARY VIEW OF THE REFORMED PROTESTANT DUTCH CHURCH, FOR 1843.

VOL. VI.

## CLASSES.

New-York,  
South Classis of New-  
Brunswick,  
Bergen,  
Passaic,  
Paramus,  
Long-Island,  
Philadelphia,  
Poughkeepsie,  
Illinois,  
Albany,  
Rensselaer,  
Ulster,  
Washington,  
Montgomery,  
Schoharie,  
Schenectady,  
Cayuga,  
Orange,  
Greene,

## STATED CLERKS.

Rev. N. I. Marcellus.  
" S. H. Meeker  
" A. A. Marcellus.  
" J. Garretson.  
" J. Wilson.  
" E. Wiggins.  
" R. Ormiston Currie.  
" J. R. Talmage.  
" F. M. Kip.  
" G. G. Sill.  
" I. N. Wyckoff, D. D.  
" A. N. Kutler.  
" C. L. Van Dyke.  
" J. H. Pitcher.  
" B. Van Vechten.  
" R. D. Van Kleeck.  
" A. J. Swin.  
" J. P. Knox.  
" J. B. Ten Eyck.  
" W. Calhoun.

JUNE, 1843.

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## ARTICLE VII.

*Synodical References.*

The Committee on Synodical Minutes reported, and their report was adopted, and is as follows :—

The Committee on Synodical Minutes beg leave to report—That they have examined the Minutes of General and Particular Synods referred to them, and find in them the following items claiming the particular attention of this Synod, viz :

1. On the Minutes of General Synod, of 1842, they have discovered nothing eliciting the particular action of this Synod.

2. On the Minutes of the Particular Synod of New-York, your committee find, on page 7, their Synodical and Statistical Reports relative to the state of religion within their bounds, forwarded to this Synod. Also, on page 21, a reference from the Classis of New-Brunswick to the Particular Synod of New-York, embraced in the following resolution, viz :

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the General Synod, to spread annually upon their minutes the amount of moneys paid to the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions ; the amount disbursed through the same board for the Missions of the Reformed Dutch Church ; the persons to whom the same has been paid ; and the amount paid to each ; and that our delegates to General Synod be requested to endeavor to obtain the adoption of a rule to that effect.

3. On the Minutes of the Particular Synod of Albany, your committee find—

a. On page 7—The Synodical and Statistical Reports of that Synod relative to the state of religion within their bounds, forwarded to this Synod.

b. On page 5—A recommendation to General Synod, by the Classis of Cayuga, of Mr. Watts Galusha, a member of the Church of Lodi, for aid from the Education Funds, transmitted by the Particular Synod of Albany to this Synod.

c. On page 6—A recommendation to General Synod by the Classis of Rensselaer, of Mr. Willard E. Geer, a member of the Church of Nassau, as a proper subject for aid from the funds of the church, in order to his engaging in studies for the gospel ministry, transmitted to this Synod.

d. On page 5—A request by the Classis of Schoharie, to the General Synod, for a dispensation in favor of Mr. Lawrence Mercereau, Jr., a licentiate of the Presbytery of Tioga, who, having received a call from the Church of Middleburgh, and being desirous of being ordained and installed pastor of said church, which request and case were referred to General Synod by the Particular Synod of Albany.

e. On page 6—A reference of the case of the Rev. Jacob R. H. Hasbrouck, from the Classis of Schoharie, to the Particular Synod of Albany, together with a recommendation of the Particular Synod of Albany, that the *facts* in this case *be sent up* by the Classis to General Synod, with the request that some general enactment may be passed, to regulate and enforce discipline in similar cases.

f. Also on page 23, 24—Appeal of Mrs. Harriet Best, from the decision of the Particular Synod of Albany in her case, relative to her *second appeal* from the decision of the Classis of Schenectady, dated October 13, 1842, to this General Synod.

All which is respectfully submitted, &c.

WILHELMUS ELTINGE,  
JOHN VANDERVOORT,  
WILLIAM PITCHER,  
JOSEPH V. VARICK,  
WILLIAM TURK,

} Committee.

*Resolved*, That so much of the above report as relates to the recommendation of persons to receive aid from the funds of Synod, be referred to the Committee on the Professorate.

*Resolved*, That so much as relates to the appeal of Mrs. Best be referred to the Committee on Overtures and Judicial Business.

*Resolved*, That so much as relates to the case of Mr. Lawrence Mercereau, Jr., be referred to the Committee on the Professorate.

*Resolved*, That so much of the above report as relates to the case of the Rev. Jacob R. H. Hasbrouck be referred to the Committee on Overtures and Judicial Business.

*Resolved*, That so much of the above report as refers to the recommendation from the Classis of New-Brunswick, in regard to the disbursements of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, on behalf of the Foreign Missions of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church be referred to the Committee on Missions.

The Committee on Overtures and Judicial Business reported, and their report was adopted, and is as follows :

The Committee on Overtures and Judicial Business beg leave to report :

1. On the reference from the Classis of Schoharie, on the case of the Rev. Jacob R. H. Hasbrouck, who took his dismissal from that classis in October, 1834, to the Classis of Ulster, and now resides within the bounds of the Classis of Orange, without having united himself to any other classis.

A communication has been received from the Stated Clerk of the Classis of Schoharie, which contains a statement of Mr. Hasbrouck's determination "to stand aloof from all ecclesiastical connexion, until God in his providence should otherwise dispose of him ;" and also, of his utter neglect and refusal to obey the citation of the classis to appear before them.

Your committee would represent, that it would be wrong for the General Synod to admit on their minutes the whole of this communication, as it contains nothing but the reference to rumors concerning the conduct of Mr. Hasbrouck. The General Synod has no jurisdiction in the present state of the business. The original authority of admitting ministers and disciplining them belongs to the classes. Our body cannot make any new rules of discipline ; and, therefore, the safer course for us to adopt, is, to leave the low-

er judicatories in the exercise of their own authority, and to act upon their own responsibilities.

As to the neglect or refusal of Mr. Hasbrouck to attend to the letters and citations of the Classis of Schoharie, the remedy is in the Constitution, and he may be promptly dealt with for contumacy.

2. With respect to Mrs. Best's notice of her intention to appeal from the decision of the Particular Synod of Albany in May last, there have no documents been received.

All which is respectfully submitted,

CORNELIUS D. WESTBROOK, *Chairman.*

### ARTICLE VIII.

#### *Synodical Appeals.*

The appeal of Mrs. Harriet Best from a decision of the Particular Synod of Albany, in her case, was called up. The appellant being called for, and not being present to prosecute her appeal, it was

*Resolved*, That the appeal of Mrs. Harriet Best from the decision of the Particular Synod of Albany, be considered as relinquished, and the same is hereby dismissed.

### ARTICLE IX.

#### *Church Government.*

Nothing occurred.

### ARTICLE X.

#### *Doctrines and Morals.*

Reports on the subject of the marriage of a deceased wife's sister, which had been referred to the several classes by the last Gen-



eral Synod, were received from the Classis of New-York, South Classis of New-York, Classes of New-Brunswick, Bergen, Paramus, Long-Island, Poughkeepsie, Philadelphia, Passaic, Albany, Ulster, Rensselaer, Washington, Montgomery, Schoharie, Schenectady, Cayuga, and Greene—which were read.

The report from the Classis of Orange not being certified by the stated clerk, and not containing the acts of the Classis on the subject, nor the ayes or nays on the vote, it was

*Resolved*, That the said report be laid on the table.

The ayes and nays on the adoption of this resolution being called for, were taken, and are as follows :

*Ayes.*

W. S. Moore,  
J. M. Matthews,  
J. D. Keese,  
R. Van Amburgh,  
T. W. Chambers,  
J. I. Gaston,  
R. Wells,  
G. Zabriskie,  
S. M. Woodbridge,  
A. H. Bishop,  
P. Wyckoff,  
A. M. Mann,  
J. C. Cruickshank,  
J. Wilson,  
G. G. Sill,  
G. McP. Myers,  
R. Willis,  
J. O. Wilson,  
A. Meneely,  
M. L. Schenck,

J. H. Van Wagenen,  
T. J. Houghtaling,  
J. S. Himrod,  
J. C. Vandervoort,  
A. N. Kittle,  
G. H. Tater,  
D. A. Jones,  
J. A. Lansing,  
J. Whitbeck,  
W. Turk,  
H. Frazee,  
W. Beekman,  
J. Van Gaasbeck,  
J. A. Yates,  
P. Shaver,  
W. W. Rand,  
J. P. Knox,  
D. Murdock,  
J. Searle,  
A. M. Van Bergen.—40.

*Nays.*

W. C. Brownlee,  
G. H. Fisher,  
J. V. Varick,  
C. D. Westbrook,  
W. Eltinge,  
T. B. Gregory,  
P. Labagh,  
C. P. Wack,  
B. Baird,  
G. C. Shanok,

S. H. Vanness,  
C. S. Van Santvoord,  
J. Snyder,  
G. Mynders,  
A. H. Myers,  
H. J. Diefendorf,  
W. Gray,  
R. P. Lee,  
P. Neaffie.—19.

At a subsequent period of the session, the stated clerk laid before Synod a communication which he had received from the Stated Clerk of the Classis of Orange, certifying that the report which had been transmitted by him, was adopted by the Classis, and giving the ayes and nays on the adoption of the same.

The reading of the report of the Classes having been completed, it was

*Resolved*, That the clerks ascertain and announce to the Synod the result of the decisions of the Classes.

The Clerks submitted the following:—

In pursuance of a resolution of the Synod, the clerks *pro. tem.* report the following as the result of the vote of the several Classes on the subject of the marriage of a man with the sister of his deceased wife :

	Affir.	Neg.	Dbtā.
Classis of New-York, in favour of retaining the vote of Synod,	13	11	4
South Classis of New-York,	3	10	1
Classis of Bergen,	6	9	
“ New-Brunswick,	11	17	1
“ Philadelphia,	4	12	
“ Long-Island,	12	15	

	Affir.	Neg.	Dbt.
Classis of Paramus,	11	6	
“ Passaic,	4	8	
“ Poughkeepsie, (unanimously)		Neg.	
“ Albany,	8	8	
“ Ulster,	11	11	
“ Rensselaer,		21	
“ Washington,		10	
“ Montgomery,		18	
“ Schoharie,		7	
“ Orange,	8	4	
“ Cayuga,	7	9	
“ Schenectady,		13	
“ Greene,	2	7	

From which it appears that three Classes have decided in favor of retaining the law ; fourteen have decided against the law ; two Classes are a tie.

The sum of the vote in favor of the rule, is 100

The sum of the vote for repealing the rule, is 196

Three Classes have declared an unanimous vote in favor of repeal, without giving the number present. Six names are reported as doubtful.\*

RANSFORD WELLS,  
JOHN P. KNOX.

*Whereas*, Some of the Classes have not reported the ayes and nays on the question of marrying a deceased wife's sister, therefore,

*Resolved*, That they be permitted to make such reports to the stated clerk, previous to the publication of the minutes.

\* Since the above table was framed by the temporary clerks, reports of the state of the vote have been received from the Classes of Rensselaer, Washington, Schenectady, and Orange. The ayes and nays thus reported, have been inserted in the above table by the stated clerk, under the authority given to him for that purpose by the resolution of Synod.

The following preamble and resolution were then offered, and after a full discussion, the same were adopted :—

*Whereas*, The rule prohibiting the marriage of a man with his deceased wife's sister, is found in resolutions only passed by General Synod at its previous sessions, and not found in the Constitution of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church ; and *whereas*, a majority of the classes have reported against such rule, therefore,

*Resolved*, That all resolutions which may have been passed by the General Synod, forbidding a man to marry his deceased wife's sister, be and hereby are rescinded.

The ayes and nays on the adoption of the resolution were called for, and are as follows :—

*Ayes.*

W. S. Moore,  
D. P. Ingraham,  
J. M. Matthews,  
J. D. Keese,  
T. W. Chambers,  
J. I. Gaston,  
J. Van Blarcom  
S. M. Woodbridge,  
P. Wyckoff,  
A. Remsen,  
P. Labagh,  
B. Baird,  
A. M. Mann,  
J. C. Cruickshank,  
C. P. Adriance,  
G. C. Shanck,  
J. Wilson,  
G. M<sup>c</sup>P. Myers,  
D. Kennedy,

J. C. Vandervoort,  
A. N. Kittle,  
J. Phillips,  
T. F. Mesick,  
D. A. Jones,  
J. A. Lansing,  
J. J. Quick,  
H. Frazee,  
A. H. Myers,  
H. J. Diefendorf,  
A. B. Chittenden,  
R. D. Van Kleeck,  
S. Robertson,  
W. Beekman,  
A. J. Switz,  
W. Pitcher,  
J. A. Yates,  
J. T. Lansing,  
W. W. Rand,

*Ayes.*

J. Q. Wilson,  
J. H. Van Wagenen,  
J. Woodruff,  
T. J. Houghtaling,  
J. S. Himrod,

J. P. Knox,  
J. Demarest,  
C. Whitehead,  
W. Houston,  
D. Murdock.—48.

*Nays.*

W. C. Brownlee,  
G. H. Fisher,  
J. K. Campbell,  
R. Wells,  
B. C. Taylor,  
G. Zabriskie,  
W. Eltinge,  
J. H. Duryea,  
E. Wiggins,  
T. B. Gregory,  
C. P. Wack,

W. J. Thompson,  
S. H. Vanness,  
A. C. Hilman,  
S. V. E. Westfall,  
M. L. Schenck,  
C. S. Van Santvoord,  
S. S. Becker,  
W. Gray,  
R. P. Lee,  
P. Neaffie,  
E. De Puy.—22.

**ARTICLE XI.***Customs and Usages.*

Nothing occurred.

**ARTICLE XII.***Schools and Christian Education.*

The Fourth Annual Report of the General Synod's Board of the Sabbath School Union was received, read, and referred to the Committee on Education.

The Rev. Dr. Brownlee presented a communication which had been addressed to him by Mr. James Bogart, the founder of the

Bogart Scholarship, relative to the amount paid to the beneficiary on that scholarship—which was referred to the Committee on Education.

The following report was received from the Board of Education, which was read and referred to the Committee on Education:—

The Board of Education of the Reformed Dutch Church respectfully report to General Synod—

That no addition has been made to the number of Scholarships, and that they remain as reported last year, viz:—

1st, Van Rensselaer ; 2d, Rutgers ; 3d, William Paterson Van Rensselaer ; 4th, Cornell ; 5th, Wyckoff ; 6th, Heyer ; 7th, Margaret Burgess ; 8th, John Clark ; 9th, Isaac L. Kip ; 10th, James Bogart, Jr. ; 11th, Tannika Turk ; 12th, Richard Cadmus.

The number of young men now under the care of the board, and who receive aid from the funds, is twenty-three. Eight less than they reported last year.

The board regret that they have been unable to receive on their funds any new applicants. They had hoped that the statement made to General Synod at their last meeting would have roused up the energies of the Church to a more liberal support of this cause. But it has not done so ; as will be seen from the following report of their treasurer:—

#### BOARD OF EDUCATION R. D. C. TREASURER'S REPORT.

The Treasurer of the Board of Education respectfully reports to the Board—That although the number of the beneficiaries has been greatly reduced, the embarrassments of the board have been very little less than heretofore.

By the following condensed view of the treasurer's account it will be seen, that there has been a lamentable falling off in the amount of receipts, the contributions from churches being only \$838 ; being \$570 less than was received during the preceding year, from that source.

## DR.

Payment of loans,	-	-	-	-	\$982 57
“ to Beneficiaries	-	-	-	-	2617 00
“ Postage,	-	-	-	-	4 77
“ Salary of Rev. R. Wells, 1-4th paid,					46 88
“ Balance to new account,	-	-	-	-	3 40
					<hr/>
					\$3654 62
					<hr/>

## CR.

Balance on hand at commencement of year,	-				\$142 05
Contributions of churches,	-	-	-	-	838 57
Donations,	-	-	-	-	205 00
Interest on Scholarships,	-	-	-	-	1219 00
Borrowed on Notes of the Treasurer,	-	-	-	-	1250 00
					<hr/>
					\$3654 62
					<hr/>

In the treasurer's report of last year he stated the fact, that out of two hundred and forty churches named in the statistical tables of the General Synod, only thirty-two churches had contributed any thing to the funds.

This year the number of contributing churches is only eighteen, as will be seen by the following schedule :—

## CONTRIBUTIONS OF CHURCHES.

*Classis of New-York.*

Collegiate Church,	-	-	-	-	\$268 00
Female Education Society,	-	-	-	-	61 00
					<hr/>
					\$329 00
					<hr/>

*South Classis of New-York.*

South Church, Murray-street,	-	-	-	\$ 91 70
Church in Market-street,	-	-	-	126 10
“ Third-street,	-	-	-	8 00
				<hr/>
				\$225 80
				<hr/>

*Classis of New-Brunswick.*

Church of New-Brunswick,	-	-	-	\$11 02
“ Six-mile Run,	-	-	-	23 07
“ Hillsboro’,	-	-	-	10 51
				<hr/>
				\$44 60
				<hr/>

*Classis of Passaic.*

Church of Pompton Plains,	-	-	-	\$12 20
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*Classis of Paramus.*

Church of Paramus,	-	-	-	\$8 00
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*Classis of Long-Island.*

Church of New-Utrecht,	-	-	-	\$49 27
“ Newtown,	-	-	-	11 00
South Church, Brooklyn,	-	-	-	9 37
				<hr/>
				\$69 64
				<hr/>

*Classis of Philadelphia.*

Church of Readington,	-	-	-	\$20 00
“ Harlingen, ,	-	-	-	60 00
				<hr/>
				\$80 00
				<hr/>



*Classis of Poughkeepsie.*

Church of New-Hackensack,	-	-	-	\$6 58
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*Classis of Albany.*

North Church, Albany,	-	-	-	\$32 75
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Church of Union,	-	-	-	20 00
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\$52 75

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*Classis of Orange.*

Church of Shawangunk,	-	-	-	\$10 00
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From the following Classes nothing has been received:—

Bergen,  
 Schenectady,  
 Rensselaer,  
 Montgomery,  
 Ulster,  
 Cayuga,  
 Greene,  
 Washington,  
 Schoharie, and Illinois.

It will be seen by the account, that the system of borrowing money on the notes of the treasurer has been necessarily continued. His notes are now out and unpaid for eight hundred dollars, and there is due and unpaid to beneficiaries, the sum of two hundred and forty-five dollars to 31st May—so that the board enter upon the new year, in debt one thousand and forty-five dollars, with only on hand three dollars and forty cents.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN D. KEESE, *Treasurer.*

This brief statement of our treasurer will show to General Synod

why it is that the board have been compelled to decline receiving any new beneficiaries on their list, although they have now no less than nine applicants for their aid. It will also show that, unless the churches under the care of Synod contribute more generally to this object, the board will be able to receive these young men only as one after another of those now under their care shall finish their course of study.

The want of interest exhibited by the church in the cause of education, has naturally led to inquiry as to its origin ; and the board are induced to believe, that it is to be traced in some good degree to the fact, that the responsibility of providing the requisite funds is spread over the whole church ; and that, could it be narrowed down to a particular classis, or even to a single church, the difficulty would be entirely removed.

The board has been led to this conclusion, by certain facts which appear in the history of this cause.

Of the classes under whose care are the beneficiaries recommended last year, it will be seen from the statement made in our last report, that two of them gave nothing to the funds of the board ; one of the classes only \$12 ; and a fourth, not quite half the amount requisite for the annual appropriation of a single student. While on the other hand, the single churches of New-Utrecht and Harlingen, who have each undertaken the education of a young man, contributed the requisite sum of \$120. And the church in Philadelphia, under the care of the Rev. George W. Bethune, D.D., as they have assumed the responsibility of supporting two young men, raised the amount of \$288.

Your board would therefore suggest to Synod the propriety of recommending to the several classes that, whenever any classis desires to aid a young man in his education for the Gospel ministry, the classis itself should become responsible for his support.

This would be no heavy burthen : for, with the exception of the South Classis of New-York, which consists of only seven churches, (but which has each year given more than enough to support one

young man,) and the feeble Classis of Illinois, at present consisting of but three churches, there is no classis in our connexion which has not at least nine churches. The support of a student, therefore, at the present rate, would only require from each church, the small annual sum of *thirteen dollars, thirty-three cents*. Is there a church which could not afford this?

On the supposition that each church raise this small sum, there being twenty classes in the denomination, and the church having twelve Scholarships, besides the Van Benschoten and Knox funds, the Church could support at least forty young men with perfect ease.

The term of service of the following members of the board expires this year: Rev. J. Knox, D.D., Stephen Van Rensselaer, and J. D. Keese.

Respectfully submitted,

M. S. HUTTON, *Cor. Sec.*

*New-York, May 31, 1842.*

The Treasurer of the Board of Education submitted his report, which was referred to the Committee on Education.

The Committee on Education reported, and their report was accepted, amended, adopted, and is as follows:—

The Committee on Education beg leave to report to the Synod—That the several topics entrusted to their review, have been carefully examined, and that they submit as follows:

1st. On the matter of the Bogart Scholarship.

The founder of this scholarship has presented the following special request—"that it may be exempted from the effect of a resolution, passed by the Synod in June, '42, which limits the amount to be paid to beneficiaries to \$120 per annum; and that the Treasurer of the Education Board may be directed to pay to the incumbent of this scholarship, the amount which has been withheld from the interest which it has produced, to wit, \$140."

Your committee are fully aware of the value and importance of the reasons which induced the passage of the above-mentioned resolution, and they cannot doubt that the effect of it is happy. The resolution and its tendency they have no desire to disturb, as far as it regards funds which are exclusively in the hands of the Synod. But certain privileges are conceded, and very properly so, to the founder of any scholarship ; and among those privileges, it seems to your committee, is that of desiring that the entire proceeds of his own scholarship may be appropriated to the incumbent who perhaps has been named by himself. Courtesy and sound policy, as well as gratitude, demand that Mr. Bogart's request should be granted ; and the same reasons urge a provision which may satisfactorily reach any similar request.

Your committee, therefore, recommend the adoption of the following resolutions :

1st. *Resolved*, That the request of Mr. James Bogart, Jr., as above stated, be, and it is hereby granted.

2d. *Resolved*, That the personal request of any founder of a scholarship, presented to the Board of Education, may exempt its incumbent from the effect of the resolution of 1842, and that in all other cases, its action shall not be disturbed.

2. Of the Board of Sabbath School Union.

Your committee have learned with great pleasure, that the Board of Sabbath School Union have been favored with many blessings during the year, and that they have prosecuted their labors with great diligence and fidelity.

It was reported at the close of the preceding year, that the schools of about sixty churches, were then included in the Union. Fifteen more have been added, so that at the present time the schools of seventy-five churches are enrolled among our numbers.

The board reports having completed and published the elementary books, which they had in charge ; that they are anxiously waiting for the books of Bible Questions, directed by the Synod to be prepared by Dr. Ferris ; for the Hymn-book, to be prepared by

another committee; and that they have now engaged in a very important work, to wit, the selection of a catalogue of books, out of which it may be safely recommended that our Sabbath-school libraries may be furnished. And they state a fact of a somewhat interesting character, from the contrast with the condition of the other boards, their financial affairs are unembarrassed and easy.

Your committee are happy to be able to exhibit to the Synod so satisfactory an account of the state and the proceedings of this board, and the pleasing fact of the increasing attachment to this Union, manifested by the churches. We consider it to hold a very prominent place among our institutions; and the Synod and the church at large, have interests of the very highest character, and of the most enduring nature, involved in its designs and operations. In one place we provide for the pulpits of the church an educated ministry: in another, we seek to perpetuate and to spread our denomination as a branch of the Church of Christ. By this agency we hope to indoctrinate the minds of our children, and of such as we can collect from the abodes of ignorance or a vicious poverty, in the soundness of our Christian faith, and to imbue their hearts with a lasting affection for our modes of worship and Gospel home. The existing organization of our Sabbath-school Union has produced, and it promises to produce, exceedingly favorable results. Formerly it was a very valuable branch of ministerial duty to instruct the young in the catechisms of the church. The Sabbath-school has incorporated this with its other designs and duties, and if it be properly cared for and sustained by the Synod and the churches, it will accomplish a vast amount of good to the cause of Christ and truth in general, and to our own household in the faith in particular. So desirable a result as a thorough training of our children, is every way worthy of our labor, our watchful care, our ecclesiastical supervision, and of all the aids, assistance and defences which the Synod can build up around our own Sabbath-school Board of Union.

Your committee therefore propose, for the adoption of Synod, the following resolutions:

1st. *Resolved*, That this Synod, highly gratified with the success which attends the labors of the Board of Sabbath-school Union, earnestly recommend it to the regards of the churches as a charity worthy of their contributions, and a union justly entitled to their patronage.

2dly. *Resolved*, That the Sabbath-school Board be requested to continue their plans for making up a large and valuable catalogue of books for furnishing selections as Sabbath-school libraries, and that they use the utmost care and scrutiny in their choice of the reading matter which is to be thus placed in the hands of our children.

3dly. *Resolved*, That the elementary books, prepared by the board under the direction of this Synod, and now offered for sale at the depositories in New-York and Albany, be recommended to the notice of all our superintendents and teachers.

3dly. Of the Board of Education.

Your committee can say nothing on this department of their duties that will be either more forcible or more pertinent than the report of the board, which is herewith published ; and they have only to recommend to Synod the adoption of the following resolutions.

1. *Resolved*, That it be recommended to any classis which may desire to aid a young man in his education for the gospel ministry, to assume the responsibility of his support where it is at all practicable to do so.

2. *Resolved*, That when any church recommends a beneficiary to the funds of the Education Board, or any other funds at the disposal of this Synod for the classical or theological education, that such church or consistory first make an effort to sustain such young man, and report to the classis with which such church is connected to what extent they shall be able to assist.

3. *Resolved*, That Synod again earnestly presses upon the attention of the churches which have made no collections for this board, the necessity and obligations to do so without fail, and at the earliest period.

4. *Resolved*, That special care be exercised by consistories and classes in recommending young men to the Education Fund ; and that, if at any time a consistory or classis shall become convinced of the unfitness of any person recommended by them, said consistory or classis are expected as soon as possible to revoke their recommendation.

#### 4. Of Christian Education at the West.

Your committee learn from the report of the Board of Domestic Missions, that this particular subject has occupied their attention, and with much interest. The matter has been referred to them in various ways ; and earnest appeals from several of our missionary stations have been made, desiring that some plan may be devised and adopted to promote literature, in connection with religion, in those present borders of our country.

The best consideration they have been able to give the subject, has, however, not resulted in the proposition or arrangement of any plan, and the reason is that the church is not yet prepared for any great measure toward establishing colleges and seminaries at the West. But the committee agree with the board that the counsels of the church may avail much with those who are seeking to be nurtured by her fostering care.

This object should not be permitted to depart out of sight. In the language of the report, " The youth there growing up, are destined to exert an immense influence for weal or woe : the character of society in those fair regions of our country is now forming : so it is of vast moment that elementary instruction be imparted by moral, pious and gifted teachers, well imbued with the spirit of the Gospel." Your committee therefore propose for the adoption of the Synod, the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That this Synod do earnestly recommend to their missionaries and churches in the West to exert their influence toward creating and sustaining schools of a superior grade, in which the object shall be kept constantly in view, beside the advantages of a

good or thorough education to inculcate the principles of pure morality and sound religion.

All which is respectfully submitted,

GEO. H. FISHER, *Chair'n*  
*Com. on Education.*

The Committee on Nominations having reported, Synod proceeded to fill the places of those in the Board of Managers of the General Synod's Sabbath School Union, whose term of service has expired. On counting the ballots, it appeared that the following were elected, viz: Rev. Isaac S. Demund, Frederick F. Cornell, Mancius S. Hutton, D. D., Abraham Messler, Jacob Schoonmaker, D. D., William H. Campbell, Matthias Lusk, and Messrs. James Forrester, Bauman Lowe, James Brower, P. Duryea, and E. W. Conover.

The Committee on Nominations having reported, Synod proceeded to fill the places of those in the Board of Education, whose term of service has expired. On counting the ballots, it appeared that the following were chosen, viz.: Rev. John Knox, D.D., and Messrs. Stephen Van Rensselaer, and John D. Keese.

### ARTICLE XIII.

#### *Rutgers College.*

The following report was received from the Superintendents of Rutgers College, which was referred to the Committee on the Professorate:—

To the General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church:

The Superintendents of Rutgers College in presenting to the General Synod their Annual Report, beg leave to lay before them the annexed report of the President of the College. This report contains so full an exposition of the various topics connected with the state of the college, that the Board of Superintendents deem it unneces-



sary to present any further report, and respectfully call the attention of the Synod thereto.

C. L. HARDENBERG,	}	<i>Superintendents.</i>
ABM. VAN NEST,		
JOHN KNOX,		
J. J. JANEWAY,		
SAMUEL B. HOW,		
JAS. B. HARDENBERG,		

June 1, 1843.

To the Board of Superintendents of Rutgers College the President respectfully reports—

That he is gratified in being able to state, the general deportment of the students during the last year has been exemplary and honorable. No cases of irregularity have occurred demanding extraordinary discipline; and while in a few instances greater diligence and application have been urged, yet a large majority of the several classes have exhibited a commendable degree of industry and regularity in their various duties and exercises. The *Intermediate Examination*, held in February last, was conducted with greater closeness and scrutiny than usual; and the result was highly satisfactory to the gentlemen who favored us with their attendance, and gratifying to the faculty.

The present senior class consists of nineteen young gentlemen, of whom eighteen are upon the full, and one upon the scientific course. These gentlemen will, in a short time, submit themselves to examination for the degree of A. B., and from their character and attainments, will no doubt be recommended to the Board of Trustees for that honor, to be conferred at the next commencement. Seven of this number have reported their intention to join the Theological Seminary here, and the residue will enter upon the other professions and occupations of life, with acquirements and principles, it is believed, which will reflect honor upon the Institution, and lead to usefulness and respectability in society.

The superintendents are aware, that the system adopted here, which dispenses with dormitories and commons, and places the stu-

dents to board among the respectable private families of the town, is somewhat peculiar to this college. With the exception of the collegiate institutions in the cities of New-York, and Philadelphia, where the plan was adopted, in each case no doubt, from the circumstance, that the students were mainly supplied by the city itself, no other instance of such a policy is known to exist in this country. As some of the friends of the college have intimated their doubts of the wisdom of this plan, and as it has been the subject of occasional discussion in the Board of Trustees, the President and faculty feel justified in availing themselves of this opportunity to express their decided preference of this, to the ordinary mode of college establishments. The very remarkable order and regularity which prevail among the students of this college as a body, the general sobriety of conduct, style of manners, and tone of morality, which are observable and observed here, are to be traced mainly to the operations of this system. The restraining influences of family discipline and government—the grand preservatives of youthful virtue, are made in this way, to bear effectively upon every member of the college. Each student feels himself to be, what he in truth is, a member of general society ; and that he can hold an honorable or gratifying position in it only by correct and virtuous deportment. It is not to be denied, that a large assemblage of young men in one place often begets a moral atmosphere, not the most wholesome ; and induces a recklessness of conduct, and an indifference to the opinion of the world, which sometimes cling to the character of the student in distant periods of after life. The evils inseparable, it is believed, from the prevailing college system in this country, are in a measure at least avoided by our present plan, while sufficient opportunities are left for the encouragement of that *esprit de corps*, which is desirable in many respects in every institution of learning. It is admitted, on the other hand, that ours is not perhaps the popular plan, and that an adherence to it has had, as is asserted, an effect to diminish the number of our students. The patrons of the college, and the friends of learning, will however regard the intellectual and moral culture attained,

rather than the numbers enrolled on the catalogue, as the true test of academic excellence ; and will give their preference to that system which yields the greatest results of present order and regularity, and the surest promises of future virtue and usefulness. That system of education will always, in a well-ordered community like ours, in the end be the most popular, which in the greatest degree combines moral and religious with intellectual culture, which regards the heart of the student as well as his understanding, and which makes good men as well as sound scholars.

It is a subordinate, but still important view of the subject, that our plan dispenses with the erection of costly buildings, and a large outlay of money is thus saved to be applied to the main purposes of colleges and universities—to the endowment of professorships, and to the purchase of books and apparatus.

The establishment of the common system has been urged, upon the ground, that the expenses of education would thus be lessened. Inquiry has been instituted on this subject, which has resulted in the certainty that an education can be obtained as reasonably here as at any other college in this part of the Union. Board is indeed nominally cheaper in some of the colleges than it is in this place ; but the incidental charges for room rent, etc., and the expenses of furniture, swell the amount of a year's residence to a sum at least equal, and in some cases beyond what is required here. The price of board varies in this city from \$2 to \$2.50 per week ; and this, *in all cases*, includes room rent, and the ordinary and necessary furniture of a student's apartment.

It is unnecessary, perhaps, to add, that while the faculty have thus freely and decidedly expressed their opinion and preference, they will cheerfully co-operate with the board in any measures they may deem better calculated to promote the success of the Institution.

All the branches of study specified in the college statutes have been taught during the last year, except the *Evidences of Christianity*. In my last annual report I called the attention of the

superintendents to this matter, and I now again respectfully urge it upon their notice. This subject, as well as *Biblical recitations*, are now without specific appropriation to any member of the faculty. The Professor of Classical Literature has, in addition to his other duties, voluntarily attended to the latter subject during the last winter. Both these studies are interesting and important, and deserve being placed upon a permanent and certain footing in our course.

It will be recollected, that the Synod at their last annual meeting passed a resolution authorizing the Board of Trustees to appoint a Librarian, with a compensation to be paid in equal proportions by the two bodies. *Professor Hodenpyl*, of the department of modern languages, has accordingly been appointed by the trustees to that office, and has entered upon its duties. I hoped, from the urgency of the case, that he would lose no time in establishing a system which seemed necessary for the preservation of the valuable property entrusted to his care; and as no other person here seemed specially charged with the duty of direction and supervision, I ventured, as the presiding officer of the college, to give him my counsel and advice as to the mode of procedure. I regret, however, to say, that from unexpected causes, he has as yet done little more than to prevent a further loss of books; but he expresses the belief that at the commencement of the next term, he will be able to discharge his whole duty without embarrassment or interference. I am entirely satisfied with Professor Hodenpyl's fitness and fidelity, and am only sorry that any extraneous circumstances should have transpired to disappoint the expectations of the Synod, or to induce him to put off to so distant a day, what should be done forthwith. His report to me, as yet incomplete, justifies the fear I expressed in my former communication, that many books are lost; and I am satisfied that both the Synod and the trustees will have reason to regret earlier effective measures were not adopted in the matter. Should it be thought by you who represent both the parties interested in the library, that the power of the librarian needs recogni-

tion by the Synod (in my opinion it is already both full and complete), you will, I trust, see the necessity of asking the action of that body in the premises. At any rate, it would be proper that they whose right will not be doubted or contested by professor or pupil, should prescribe the rules and regulations under which the books are to be used as text-books or otherwise ; and that a general supervisory power be conferred on some individual member of the faculty, to control and instruct the librarian in the duties of his station, and in the general economy and use of the apartment.

It is proposed to make some new arrangement, by which the professor who now occupies the library as a lecture-room, will be accommodated with another apartment. Until that change is effected, it will be difficult to enforce the regulations which may be prescribed. An appropriation of a moderate sum of money for painting the cases and wood-work of the room, and for new locks, etc., might then properly be expended ; and I would respectfully recommend that you propose such a measure to the Synod.

I have, on a former occasion, presented the necessity of two or three more lecture-rooms, and I would now again call your attention to the subject. A building might be erected at a moderate expense, on some suitable spot within the college enclosure, which might contain the library and museum, furnish accommodations to the literary societies of the college, and also a laboratory for the Professor of Chemistry, whose present room is not sufficiently convenient. The room now occupied by the library in the college edifice, might then be used exclusively for meetings of the boards of trustees, and of the superintendents of the seminary, and for the public examinations of the students of theology ; while the apartments now devoted to the museum and the laboratory, would afford all the requisite accommodations for daily lectures. If the present plan of the college be continued in dispensing with dormitories and commons, no other buildings will be required in the most prosperous and numerous condition of the Institution. The Rector of the Grammar School would thus, too, enjoy the use of the two apartments now occupied in that building by the literary societies, and

would be relieved from the inconvenience of contracted space under which he now labors.

By the report of the rector, it appears that the number of pupils in his department is *fifty-four*, and that they are engaged in equal proportions in Classical and English studies. All the branches usually taught in seminaries of that grade, are faithfully and ably conducted by the principal and his assistants. As a school, and as a fruitful source of supply to the college, it deserves the favorable notice and patronage of the public, and of the board of trustees.

The President cannot close his report, without expressing the hope that the friends of sound education, and the Synod in its corporate capacity, will see and acknowledge the propriety of an earnest appeal for wider and more generous interest in behalf of the college. It is due to truth, and to his able and zealous colleagues in the faculty, that he should state, without the restraints of a false delicacy, his honest belief that the Institution deserves, and should enjoy, the entire confidence of the Synod and the Church at large. The embarrassments of the times, which have effected this college in common with most of the literary institutions of the country, have indeed been lightened by the cheering prospect of a greater share of patronage at a future period. But still the faculty, without being discouraged, feel that greater zeal and interest in behalf of the college, are due as well to their own labors as to its character. Connected as it is with a most respectable religious denomination, without a rival to share the bounty or patronage of the Church under whose auspices it was created, and whose effective handmaid it claims to be, it should not for a day be left to struggle with adversity or doubt. Its locality, its able corps of instructors, its peculiar organization alluded to above, and its truly catholic character, for while it boasts its intimate connection with the Dutch Church, it yet disclaims and rejects a sectarian or proselyting spirit,—all justify the hope of better times, and a greater degree of usefulness. It is not presumptuous to believe, that the efforts of departed saints and philanthropists, in its behalf, whose memories are embalmed in the hearts of the wise and the good, will eventually be found not to have

been made in vain; or that the unwearied labors of still living friends, will yet be blessed of Heaven, and caused to ripen in their sight, before they, too, shall be called to their reward. It is that hope which animates the faculty in their labors, and it is this consummation which our Church and her people should delight to promote.

A. BRUYN HASBROUCK, *President.*

*Rutgers College, May 29, 1843.*

*Resolved,* That the Committee on the Professorate inquire into, and report upon the expediency of rescinding the resolution on p. 128, respecting the opening of a passage-way, and erecting a gate leading from the house now occupied by the President of Rutgers College, to the street in front of said house.

Certain accounts and vouchers for repairs to Rutgers College, and for incidental expenses paid by the trustees, amounting to \$4025 99, together with an extract from the minutes of the Board of Direction, containing the inaction upon the same, were laid before the Synod, which were referred to the Committee on the Professorate.

The following report was received from the Treasurer of Rutgers College :—

To the General Synod of the Reformed Dutch Church :

The following young men have received aid from the interest arising from the Van Benschoten and Knox Funds, from 1st April, 1842, till 1st April, 1843, viz :—

R. H. Steele,	-	-	\$195 00
Samuel D. Scudder,	-	-	120 00
Edwin Vedder,	-	-	120 00
B. F. Murden,	-	-	20 00
P. D. Van Cleef,	-	-	20 00
A. J. Stewart,	-	-	20 00
S. Seeber, Jr.,	-	-	20 00
J. E. Whitehead,	-	-	20 00

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J. H. Fonda,	-	-	-	30 00
R. Willis,	-	-	-	30 00
A. B. Winfield,	-	-	-	30 00
				<hr/>
				\$650 00

P. SPADER, *Treas. Rutgers College.*

*New-Brunswick, June, 1843.*

#### ARTICLE XIV.

##### *Professorate.*

Synod proceeded to fill the places of those of the second class in the Board of Superintendents whose term of service has expired. Nominations were received from the Classis of Long-Island, South Classis of New-York, Classis of Bergen, Classis of Schoharie, and Classis of Washington, which were confirmed.

It was referred to the Committee on Nomination to report double the number of persons from whom to choose members for those classes which have not nominated. The committee reported, and the election took place accordingly. The following are the persons chosen to fill the vacancies in the Board of Superintendents, viz :—  
Rev. Stephen H. Meeker, John Garretson, Thomas M. Strong, D. D., John H. Pitcher, Alanson B. Chittenden, Charles Whitehead, and Jeremiah Searle.

The Committee on the Professorate reported, and their report was accepted, amended, adopted, and is as follows :

The Committee on the Professorate respectfully submit the following report :—

The documents placed in their hands have been examined as carefully as time would permit, in reference to the various subjects therein contained. The attention of the Synod is called to them in the following order :—

1st. The *Report of the Board of Direction* and its accompanying documents. From these papers, it appears that the board have conducted their business with wonted energy, faithfulness, and



skill. The Securities for the moneys loaned for the respective funds are deemed ample ; and there has been a sufficiency of means to pay all the current expenses of the Synod and the Theological Seminary, without diminishing the capital. The board, however, say, that additional responsibilities would produce embarrassment, as there is little or no surplus income. It will be perceived, that the board have paid the sum of one hundred dollars towards the salary of the Janitor of Rutgers College, and twenty dollars for fuel for the past year, as legitimately belonging to the contingent expenses of the Theological Seminary. These are items of charge, to which the Synod have not heretofore been liable ; and your committee are not prepared to say, they ought not to be allowed ; but they know not why, for sixteen previous years, these items have never been asked for, if they were really due. Such are the relations between the Trustees of Rutgers College and the Synod, that the former, having free use of certain parts of the college-edifice and grounds without rent, may heretofore have had a benefit of far greater value than these incidental expenses. The principle herein involved, will more fully appear in its bearings on another matter referred to your committee, to which reference will be had hereafter.

From the annual digest, we learn the state of the funds invested. To two of these, the Van Benschoten and Knox funds, we would respectfully ask the attention of Synod. They are the Synod's property, held in trust by the Trustees of Rutgers College ; and it seems proper the Synod should annually be furnished with a list of the securities for these investments, similar to that furnished by the Board of Direction.

The principal of the Van Benschoten fund is \$20,000, loaned on bonds secured by mortgages, in the State of New-Jersey. And on the first of April last there was a balance of \$2,778 08 in the treasurer's hands, and interest *due* on first May last of \$1,246 40. Your committee find, however, only \$565 of the interest of this fund have been paid to indigent students. The question then arises, why is there so large a sum of interest unexpended ? or if other expenditures have been made of interest, in pay of tuition fees of bene-

ficiaries, or the large balance on hand is reserved therefor, needs explanation.

The committee therefore submit the following resolutions :—

1st. *Resolved*, That in future, the Board of Direction require from the Board of Trustees of Rutgers College a list of the securities for the loans made of moneys belonging to the Van Benschoten and Knox funds, to be transmitted to Synod.

2d. *Resolved*, That the trustees of Rutgers College be required to report to the Board of Direction the reason for the accumulation of interest on the Van Benschoten Fund, and why the same has not been expended according to the terms of the bequest of the reverend donor ; also, whether any, and if any, how much, of said interest has been retained by the trustees as tuition-fees for beneficiaries connected with the college, and that the Board of Direction of the corporation report to the next Synod on the whole subject ; also, what amount of moneys appropriated to beneficiaries in former years has been refunded, and what disposition has been made of such refunded moneys.

It appears also, that but a small part of the subscriptions to the professorate funds have been paid in for some years past ; and fears have been expressed, that some of these subscriptions may prove unavailable. Your committee would suggest, that in the papers hereafter to be annually transmitted by the Board of Direction, there should be a statement of the whole amount of these subscriptions actually paid, and of the amount of principal of the same not paid. Without this, the Synod cannot know from year to year what are the entire resources on which they can reasonably rely, to meet the current expenses of our Theological Seminary, and those of the Synod. No resolution is believed necessary on this point, as the suggestion will doubtless be sufficient to elicit the desired statement from the Board of Direction.

A long account of sixteen years' expenditure by the Trustees of Rutgers College, for repairs and incidental expenses, presented to the Board of Direction, together with an accumulation of interest

thereon, and by them referred to Abraham Van Nest, Esq., and his report thereon to the board, and by them subsequently through him referred to General Synod, with a view to obtain instructions thereon,—has been considered by your committee.

The presentation of this claim, with its calculations of interest, cannot but occasion surprise. It stands as follows :

1st. For repairs to the College building for 16 years,	\$694 43
2d. Interest on the same for 8 years, at 6 per cent.,	333 28
3d. <i>One-half</i> of the incidental expenses,	1665 78
4th. Interest on the same for 8 years, at 6 per cent,	799 52
	<hr/>
	\$3493 01

But the Committee of the Board of Trustees say,—“It may be said with truth that the trustees ought to have presented these bills in their season to the consideration of the General Synod, they would therefore waive the demand of interest, and present only the repairs, and the half of the other incidental expenses, amounting to the sum of \$2360 21.”

The Synod's committee would state, that in the report of I. Young, treasurer of Synod, in June, A.D. 1842, are charged items of repairs paid to Peter Spader, treasurer of Rutgers College, amounting to \$381 37. And in his report to the Synod this year, are similar items charged, amounting to \$339 60. By this payment of demands from the trustees of Rutgers College, previous to presenting their long-standing account of 16 years duration, it would seem an inference in favor of certain of the charges in said account may be drawn. But to your committee it appears, that no benefit should accrue to the trustees by any such process. Nevertheless, if the claim now set up be equitable, and in no way is fairly met by the existing relations between the trustees of Rutgers College and the General Synod, which can only be ascertained by a careful examination of the compact between the two bodies and the legislative action, had from time to time in reference to the same—it is evident, from this and other incidental matters which have

arisen, and one of which has been referred to, and is yet to be presented by your committee, that there would be a manifest propriety in the Synod appointing a committee on the relations existing between the two bodies, no one of which committee shall be a member of either the Synod's Board of Direction of the Corporation, or of the Board of Trustees of Rutgers College, or of either Board of Superintendents ; and that to such a committee should be referred for adjudication, all claims and demands by or from the trustees of the college, and all matters relating to the college premises, and the appurtenances thereunto belonging—said committee to report to General Synod.

Should such a committee be appointed, the present claim may very properly be referred to them for adjudication.

The committee recommend the following resolutions :

*Resolved*, That a committee of seven persons be appointed on the relations existing between the General Synod and the Trustees of Rutgers College, no one of which committee shall be a member of the Board of Direction of the Corporation of General Synod, or of the Board of Trustees of Rutgers College, or of either Board of Superintendents, or of the present Committee on the Professorate ; to which committee shall be referred for adjudication, all claims or demands from the Trustees of the College, and all matters relating to the college premises, and the appurtenances thereunto belonging—said committee to report to Synod.

*Resolved*, That the account and vouchers above referred to, be committed to the aforesaid committee for adjudication.

## 2d. Board of Superintendents of Rutgers College.

The report of this board is embraced in an interesting communication to them from the distinguished gentleman who presides over this literary institution. This exhibits a true statement of the situation and prospects of the college, and will speak for itself on the pages of the Synod's Acts and Proceedings. The good order maintained among the youth here training up for future usefulness,

as well as their favorable progress in literary acquirements, give reason to indulge fond hopes of their future usefulness in the varied spheres of human life, into which they may hereafter enter. The Synod cannot but feel, that important benefits have issued to the Theological Seminary, and the church at large, through the medium of the college; and it will doubtless in future receive its fostering care.

There is in this report a reference to the recent appointment of a librarian, and some difficulties under which he has labored in discharge of his duties in this department. Some judicious arrangement for the preservation of this valuable portion of property should be effected and enforced. It is the common property of the Synod and college, and is intended to be, and should be open to professors and students of both departments. Your committee recommend the following resolution:—

*Resolved*, That the Professor of Didactic Theology in the Theological Seminary, and the President of the College, prepare a digest of rules for the library, and be a committee to aid the librarian in the enforcement of such rules.

The Board of Superintendents accord with the President in his views of the necessity of enlarged accommodations for the literary institution, in additional lecture-rooms to be erected by the Synod. But however pressing the necessity may be, your committee deem it inexpedient that any expenditure should be made at present by Synod, for this purpose.

The Synod have, no doubt, been impressed with the fact announced in the report of the Board of Superintendents, that during the past year, no instruction has been given in the immensely important subject of Evidences of Christianity. This ought not so to have been. And as no provision is made for such instruction, the following resolution is respectfully submitted:—

*Resolved*, That the Professor of Biblical Literature, in the Theological Seminary, be, and hereby is, affectionately and solemnly requested to give instruction on the Evidences of Christianity, in

Rutgers College ; and that a transcript of this resolution be transmitted to him by the Stated Clerk of Synod.

3d. The Board of Superintendents of the Theological Seminary.

This board have attended to the important duties devolving on them, and their report furnishes matter of gratitude to God for his mercies to this institution. Professors and pupils have been actively employed in their respective duties, and a good measure of success has attended their efforts. A dark mantle has, however, been thrown over this school of the prophets, because death has brought down to his dominions two beloved pupils. Their death serves to incite those who remain to watchfulness and prayer, and to hold themselves, through grace, in readiness for their Master's will.

It is suggested that the commencement of the theological year be so altered as to correspond with that in the college, and your committee recommend the following resolution :—

*Resolved*, That the time of the commencement of the theological year, be so altered as to correspond with that of Rutgers College, viz : on the first day of October in each year.

This board respectfully suggest to Synod, and your committee concur in the suggestion, that a public theological commencement be held at the close of the theological year, and that the graduating class be required to prepare discourses, of suitable length, on subjects assigned by the theological faculty, and that they be pronounced from memory at a public exhibition in the Reformed Dutch Church, at New-Brunswick, due notice of the same to be given in the public prints. They further suggest, that at the close of the above-named exercises, a public address be delivered by one of the theological faculty, each professor to take his turn in alphabetical order.

Your committee recommend the following resolution :—

*Resolved*, That the Board of Superintendents of the Theological Seminary make the necessary arrangements for the proposed public Theological Commencement.

4th. There has been referred to the committee a resolution respecting the expediency of rescinding the resolution adopted by the last General Synod, on page 128 of the minutes, respecting opening a passage-way to the street, in front of the house of the President of Rutgers College. Your committee recommend the following resolution :—

*Resolved*, That it is inexpedient to open any further roads or walks through the college grounds to the President's house, while those now in use remain free and unobstructed ; and that the resolution on that subject, passed at the sessions of General Synod in June, 1842, be, and hereby is rescinded.

5th. *Dispensations.*

*The case of Mr. John L. See.*—Mr. See asks a dispensation only from actual residence at New-Brunswick, and to prosecute his studies as he best can, at Somerville, for the remainder of his theological course, and to present himself before the board of superintendents at all the regular examinations of his class, and finally, before the classis to which he belongs, for licensure, at the time that he would independently of this application for a dispensation.

The committee, believing the circumstances in which Mr. See is placed imperiously to demand his presence at Somerville, recommend the following resolution :—

*Resolved*, That Mr. See's request be granted.

*The case of Mr. Laurence Mersereau, Jr.*

Your committee had before them the Minutes of the Classis of Schoharie, and of the Particular Synod of Albany, in this case. From these minutes it appears, that this gentleman is a licentiate of the Presbytery of Tioga, and desires admission to the Classis of Schoharie, with a view to the acceptance of a call made on him by the church at Middleburgh. But the classis doubt whether his reception would not be an infraction of the rules, and particularly the third, regulating the reception of ministers and licentiates of other bodies, not of our own connexion.

This is the substance of the reasons for the reference of his case to Synod.

The committee have had no other documents in this case presented to them—nothing definitely showing his time or course of study, nor any request from Mr. Mersereau for a dispensation from the operation of the rule which his admission into the Classis would infringe. The church is, however, very anxious for his speedy settlement. Under all circumstances, your committee recommend the following resolution:—

*Resolved*, That the Classis of Schoharie act on this case with distinct reference to the observance of the rules adopted by the Synod.

6th. *Recommendations of Beneficiaries.*

The Classis of Cayuga recommend Mr. Watts Galusha, and the Classis of Rensselaer recommend Mr. Willard E. Geer, for aid from the education fund; wherefore,

*Resolved*, That these gentlemen be, and hereby are, recommended to be aided from the Van Benschoten funds.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

BENJAMIN C. TAYLOR, *Chairman.*

It was referred to the committee on nominations to report double the number of persons, from whom to choose the committee on the relations between the Trustees of Rutgers College and the General Synod, referred to in the above report. The committee reported, when the following were elected: Rev. Mancius Hutton, D. D., Abraham Messler, Maurice W. Dwight, Ransford Wells; and the Elders, Cornelius R. Suydam, George Zabriskie, and Peter Z. Elmendorf.

**ARTICLE XV.**

*Students in Theology.*

Nothing occurred.



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**ARTICLE XVI.***Church Visitations.*

Nothing occurred.

**ARTICLE XVII.***Prevailing Sins.*

Nothing occurred.

**ARTICLE XVIII.***Missions.*

The eleventh annual report of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church was received and read. Accompanying the report, were extracts from the report of the Rev. Dr. Ferris, on the subject of his agency in Holland; the semi-annual report of the mission at Borneo, dated July 23, 1842; and a letter from H. Hill, Treasurer of the A. B. C. F. M., transmitting an account of the expenditures of the missions of the Reformed Dutch Church, for the year ending June 30, 1842. The report, together with the accompanying documents, were referred to the Committee on Missions.

The report of the Treasurer of the Board of Foreign Missions was submitted, which was referred to the Committee on Missions.

The Rev. Dr. Scudder, by previous arrangement, addressed the Synod on the state of the heathen, on the evening of the second day of the session.

The twelfth annual report of the Board of Missions of the General Synod was received and read. So much of the same as refers to the subject of education in the West, was referred to the Committee on Education, and the residue to the Committee on Missions.

The report of the Treasurer of the Board of Missions of the General Synod was received, and referred to the Committee on Missions.

The following report was received from the committee, to whom was referred the subject of regulating the duties, and fixing the salary of the Financial Secretary, which was referred to the Committee on Missions:—

Report of the Committee on the Business of the Financial Secretary of the General Synod.

This committee was appointed by the General Synod of 1842, consisting of the chairman and secretary of each of the *four* boards of the General Synod, namely: the Foreign Mission, and Domestic Mission; the Sabbath School Union, and the Education Board; to arrange the duties, fix the salary, &c., of the Financial Secretary of the General Synod, appointed to take the general superintendence of the several benevolent operations of our church.

That committee begs leave respectfully to report, that your committee has attended to the business intrusted to them. They met on the 27th of June, 1842: present, the Rev. J. Garretson, and Dr. Dewitt, the President and Secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions; W. B. Crosby, Esq., and Rev. B. C. Taylor, the President and Secretary of the Domestic Mission Board; Dr. Brownlee, and the Rev. Mr. Demund, the President and Secretary of the Sabbath School Union; Dr. Knox, and Dr. Hutton, the President and Secretary of the Education Board.

The Rev. Mr. Demund, who had been appointed by the General Synod as their Financial Secretary, having declined the appointment, the committee proceeded, according to the instructions of the General Synod, to appoint one in his place. The Rev. Mr. Ransford Wells was unanimously chosen, and he accepted the appointment.

The committee delivered to him his letter of instructions, defining his duties; and they fixed his salary at \$1500 per annum, to be paid quarterly out of the gross receipts collected by him for the four different boards, in proportion to the sums received by each

board respectively. That sum includes his salary, and all his expenses whatever.

The Financial Secretary entered upon his duties on September 5, 1842. Of course the year for which he was chosen, expires on Sept. 5, ensuing.

Thus far, his labors have been as successful as we could anticipate. He has been faithfully sowing the seed : we cannot expect a full and satisfactory harvest for some time yet to come. Your committee have full confidence in the ultimate success of your financial agent, in the great work in which he has embarked with so much zeal, wisdom, and skill.

Your committee would therefore recommend, that the General Synod instruct their joint committee to appoint the Financial Secretary for another year, from Sept. 5, ensuing, when his year expires ; and that he shall continue to act under the care and supervision of the general committee, as he has hitherto done.

For a detail of all further particulars, your general committee beg leave to refer the Synod to the report of the Rev. Mr. Wells—the agent who now is ready to report.

All which is respectfully submitted.

W. C. BROWNLEE, *Chairman.*

*Albany, June 8, 1843.*

The Rev. Ransford Wells, the Financial Secretary, submitted the report of his proceedings since his appointment, which was referred to the Committee on Missions.

The Rev. William H. Campbell preached the annual missionary sermon before the Synod, in the Middle Dutch Church, in this city, on the evening of the fifth day of the session, from Matthew xxiv. 14—“And this Gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations ; and then shall the end come.”

The Committee on Missions reported, and their report was amended, adopted, and is as follows :—

The committee respectfully report to General Synod—That in review of the documents placed in their hands, they discover cause of humiliation and gratitude, of sorrow and joy.

In the foreign department, our missions have experienced afflictive dispensations. Mr. and Mrs. Van Doren have been obliged to forsake the field of labor in consequence of ill health, and have returned home. The Rev. Isaac P. Stryker, who accompanied him, has been called to his heavenly rest, and his body sleeps with those of several missionary brethren and sisters in Singapore.

Thus two of our small band of laborers have finished their course since the organization of the board. But though dead, they yet speak, and commend to our affection and prayerful exertion the cause in which they died. In consequence of the ill health of Mrs. Nevius, she, and Mr. N. are on their way to the United States. Thus there will be left at Borneo but five of the brethren, viz: Messrs. Doty, Pohlman, Youngblood, Thompson and Steele.

These afflictions, together with the difficulties imposed by the Netherlands government, give to our foreign operations a gloomy aspect. But faith, which to the Christian gives a bright coloring to the darkest providences, enables also the church to discern the hand of God, and mark the tokens of his mercy and wisdom in the most untoward events. They try our faith and patience. They give an opportunity of proving our attachment to his cause, and of exercising a simple dependence upon his arm; they prompt us to look to his promises, and to wrestle with him in prayer. If these effects are produced, the trials referred to will work together for the furtherance of the Gospel. These afflictions bear most heavily upon the beloved brethren themselves, who are thus embarrassed in their operations, and see their fellow-laborers removed from them when they must truly need all the consolation of their fraternal sympathy and communion. The circumstances of these brethren call for the sympathy and prayers of the church, and their case should lie near the hearts of all the members of our Zion when they visit the closet, the family-altar, or the public sanctuary.

Messrs. Youngblood and Thompson commenced a tour in the interior of Borneo, which was finished by Mr. Thompson. The communications of Mr. Thompson give evidence of his persevering zeal and fidelity, and discover that a way is opened for the introduction of the Gospel among the Dyaks, the original population of the island. These two brethren have since left Pontianak for Landak, to enter among their labors.

From the report of Messrs. Youngblood and Pohlman, dated July 20, 1842, addressed to the Secretary of the American Board, we take the following extracts:—

“ Mr. Youngblood has been conducting a Malay boarding-school at Pontianak, containing seven boys and a few day scholars, three of whom have learned to read in the Arabic and Roman character, and are now attending to English.

“ The boys of the school, together with our domestics and a few others, comprise the Malay audience, averaging about twenty persons. The Chinese boarding-school for boys numbers six. In addition to Chinese, brother Doty is teaching them the English language, writing, and arithmetic. The new mission house was completed in May. A female boarding-school has been commenced, and contains eleven scholars. Such is the low estimate of female character, and the prejudice against educating girls, that we are certain of nothing; every scholar is held by a brittle tenure, just as long as the whim or caprice of the parents will allow.

“ Mr. Doty is engaged in translating Brown’s Catechism, and the other Chinese brother is preparing some easy lessons in Scripture. All the children and some adults, meet for Chinese worship every Sabbath morning. The average attendance is about 29.”

From the above extracts from the report of the missionaries, we have reason to rejoice and bless the Lord that the light has begun to dawn upon that benighted region; that a beginning of Christian labor and instruction has been made; some seed sown, however little, and on a soil, however unpromising,—for who hath despised the day of small things? The Redeemer did not, when he sent forth

his little band of disciples, and has taught us, with regard to his kingdom especially, that the day of small things may become the day of great things, and that a little stone, cut out of the mountain, shall fill the whole earth. His word shall not return unto him void, but the precious seed, watered by the prayers and tears of these self-denying servants of Jesus, will yet, through grace, yield abundant fruit.

While we thus would be thankful for what has been done in this field of labor, your committee cannot notice the peculiar obstacles that impede the progress of the mission, and embarrass the operations of the brethren in Borneo, without at least asking, Is there not a more promising field over the vast dominions of paganism, where some of these devoted men might spend their strength to a better purpose ; where a ready access could be obtained, and greater results accomplished ? And we are glad to find that the providence of God is preparing the way for a change which we trust will be overruled for good. The present location is the one to which Providence directed the board. "It was not the field," as Dr. Anderson justly remarks, "of our own choosing or yours ; but the one to which the Lord was pleased to send us after he had closed every other ;" but now God has opened another door to the immense population of China. Dr. Abeel urges the church to follow the indications of Providence, and represents China as offering far more inducements to the missionary than Borneo. The restrictions of the Netherlands Government are a serious obstacle ; and since we learn from the report of the Rev. Dr. Ferris that no change in these restrictions has been obtained, the Lord seems thus to direct us to another location. It is gratifying to find that the Prudential Committee of the American Board have felt favorable to the transfer of some of the Missionaries from Borneo to China, and have given a conditional promise to Messrs. Doty and Pohlman, who have studied the Chinese language, to remove to that mighty empire of moral desolation and death.

From the report of Dr. Ferris, we learn that although he failed

in accomplishing the main object of his visit to Holland, yet the precise position in which we are placed to the government was ascertained, assurances of the favor and protection of the government toward our missions in Borneo were secured, and, on the whole, such results accomplished as rendered the mission happy and auspicious.

In concluding their report, your committee would call the attention of the Synod to an appeal of the Secretary of the American Board, in behalf of the mission to the Dyaks. After Mr. Doty and Pohlman's removal, which will probably soon occur, there will be but three laborers remaining. "Two more clerical missionaries, and a physician, and a printer, ought to embark the present year for Borneo, to labor among the Dyaks."

The Synod, therefore, re-echo this appeal to the hearts of Christian ministers, and disciples of Christ, and especially to the pious youth of our church, who contemplate entering the ministry, and would ask if love to the Redeemer, who came on a mission of mercy from heaven to earth, and sacrificed his life for them—if attachment to the cause of the Saviour of the world—if a desire to rescue souls from ruin, and spread abroad the light of Heavenly truth upon the dark and wretched regions of idolatry, ignorance and death, will not prompt the reply to this appeal :—"Here, Lord, am I; send me."

The General Synod, with pleasure and Christian love, greet the Rev. Dr. John Scudder, whose return to his native land, after an absence of twenty-three years, is referred to in the report of the Board of Missions; and trust that his intercourse among the churches and Christian community, may enliven their zeal in the cause so dear to his heart, and thus conduce to the advancement of the kingdom of Christ.

The Treasurer of the American Board has transmitted to our Board of Missions, a detailed account of the expenses of our missions from July 1, 1841, to June 30, 1842, amounting to \$11,513 95.

The committee would suggest to the General Synod the propriety of publishing this report, with the view of satisfying the churches of the faithful application of the funds contributed to this object.

The receipts into the treasury of the board, during the last year, have been \$8478 18, being less than the previous year, \$2235 60. The receipts for the year ending June, 1842, exceeded those of the preceding year by nearly the same amount.

The committee respectfully recommend to General Synod the adoption of the following resolutions:—

1. *Resolved*, That a correspondence be opened between the General Synod and the Classis of Amsterdam, and that the Classis of New-York be the committee to conduct said correspondence.

2. *Resolved*, That General Synod approve of the transfer of the Rev. Messrs. Doty and Pohlman, from Borneo to China, under the conviction that they will enjoy a more extended field of usefulness there than in their present location.

3. *Resolved*, That our beloved brother, the Rev. Dr. Scudder, be commended to the affectionate reception of the churches in our bounds, whom he may be able to visit, with the view of awakening a spirit of zeal and prayer in the cause of missions.

4. *Resolved*, That the General Synod solemnly urge all the ministers and members of our beloved Zion to pray more earnestly, and more liberally and actively aid in the spread of the Gospel throughout the world.

#### Domestic Missions.

In consequence of the enlarged operations of the Domestic Board, and consequent increased services required of the Corresponding Secretary, a division of the duties of his office has been made. Those pertaining to the Western missions have been placed in the hands of the Rev. Dr. Taylor; and those relating to missions in the States of New-York, New-Jersey, and Pennsylvania, in the hands of the Rev. George H. Fisher.

In the Eastern department appropriations have been made during



the past year, to twenty-seven churches, and two missionary stations, viz: Flushing and Chatham. Of these churches, twenty-three are in the State of New-York, and four in the State of New-Jersey. Fifteen churches, besides the above, had received appropriations during the preceding year, which did not expire until at different periods during the last year. It thus appears, that forty-two churches and two missionary stations have been aided by the board during the past year.

The churches of Newark, Newburgh, Hudson, and Third Albany, are no longer under the care of the board, no application for aid having been made by them.

From the report of the Corresponding Secretary it appears, that the interests of our missions in the Eastern department are such as to afford encouragement. The Lord has smiled upon the congregations aided, and some of them have enjoyed precious tokens of the divine presence.

The amount of money appropriated during the year, is \$3055.

#### Western Missions.

“To the last General Synod the board reported the organization of the two Classes of Illinois and Michigan, the former consisting of three ministers and three churches, and the latter of four ministers and four churches. And the Rev. J. F. Schemerhorn as laboring in Indiana, and the Rev. E. Slingerland in Wisconsin Territory.

“During the past year, the appointments of the missionaries then in the field have been renewed, and their services retained throughout the year, with the exception of one in Illinois, and one in Michigan.”

The church at Fairview, in the Classis of Illinois, is growing in strength, having received eight additional members to their communion, and eight or nine families to the congregation.

The church at Pekin presents a strong claim upon the fostering care of the board. The preaching of the Gospel has been received with interest: about fifty families are ready to unite in the support of a minister, if one could be obtained, and \$1500 has been

subscribed to erect a house of worship. The General Synod would direct the attention of her ministers to this infant church, as affording an encouraging field of usefulness. It is in a growing town, situated on the Eastern bank of the Illinois river, and contains between six and seven hundred inhabitants.

At Constantine, in the Classis of Michigan, the Lord has granted a special outpouring of the Spirit. Meetings for worship have been thronged—Christians revived—and souls converted to God.

The Church of Grand Rapids also, has enjoyed a season of refreshing from the presence of the Lord. Seventeen on confession, and twenty-one on certificate, have been received into the communion.

The Head of the Church has thus smiled upon the effort to extend our fair inheritance into the growing states of the West. And while giving us a name in that land of promise, the dispensation of the Word of Life has been in demonstration of the Spirit, and with power. But the ground we have acquired has served as an elevation from which to survey the wide territory around, and find that there is much land to be possessed. The rapidly increasing population of that country—the settlements there of many from the bosom of our church—the prevalence of ignorance, error, and vice—and the giant march of the Man of Sin,—all urge to vigorous efforts in the prosecution of our missionary operations.

To accomplish most efficiently and promptly the important work of planting churches, and spreading the Gospel in that wide field which Providence has so kindly opened, it has been wisely suggested by the Secretary in his report, that prominent concentrating points should be secured. That churches should be established at Detroit, Peoria, Pekin, St. Louis, and Milwaukie, and that additional laborers should be sent to these fields, ripening for the harvest. In view of the moral destitution of the country, and the cry that salutes our ears for help, we are forced to exclaim—"The harvest truly is great, and the laborers are few;" and to pray the Lord that he would "send forth laborers into his harvest."

The great obstacle to an enlarged action in this blessed cause is the deficiency of means. Notwithstanding the appeals to the churches, and the exertions of the Financial Secretary, the receipts this past year are only \$5127 10.

And what is peculiarly mortifying, orders of missionaries and feeble churches, depending on the board, to the amount of nearly \$3500, remain unpaid.

How to relieve the board from this weight of obligation, is a question of grave consideration for the General Synod.

This deficiency has not arisen simply from a diminution in the contributions of the churches; but from the enlarged operations, and increased appropriations of the board.

The Board, in yielding to the urgent demands for aid, have exceeded their resources, relying with confidence upon the faithfulness and liberality of the churches to sustain them. But this has not been done; and now, from the opinion of those who think that institutions depending on public charity should limit their contributions to their present means, the debt in question labors under prejudice, which enhances the difficulty of discharging it. Still something must be done, or the faith of the board be violated, the subjects of her promised bounty be injured, and her future efforts greatly embarrassed.

The committee would suggest, whether in the present emergency it would not be prudent for the board to decline all new applications diminishing the aid bestowed where it can with propriety be done, and withholding, at least for a year, the accustomed appropriations to those churches who, for a number of years have depended upon the board. In the latter case, it is believed many such churches, when left to their own resources, would arouse their energies, and find themselves more competent to stand alone than they supposed. In the meantime, some special effort is needed; and the committee would propose, that a collection be taken up in each of the churches, on some particular day, for the purpose of cancelling the above obligation.

As to the future current expenses of the board, your committee look with hope to the results of the labors of the Financial Secretary.

From the report of this agent, we learn that he has been actively employed, since his appointment, in prosecuting the objects of his commission, viz : to promote a missionary spirit, and bring into operation a well-devised system of measures in behalf of the several boards of the church.

He has, during the eight months of his service, visited forty-four churches, in which he has endeavored to raise money for immediate purposes, and secure a uniform and increased income for the future.

The churches he visited, which have made returns, have done about as much for foreign missions as the last year ; and for domestic missions, they have contributed about \$1200 more. When it is considered that the board was \$3000 in debt when the agency commenced—that the income of the board was rapidly declining—and that the pecuniary embarrassments of the country greatly obstruct the channels of benevolence,—it must be acknowledged, that the already realized results of this instrumentality are equal to what could reasonably have been anticipated.

Besides, it must be remembered, that the good effects of the agent's labors are not to be seen at once. He has, by preaching on the subject of missions, been sowing seed which, like the precious wheat, may spring up another year. He has been laying plans, suggesting modes of raising funds, and obtaining promises of future co-operation, which may be expected hereafter to enlarge the stream of charities, and richly replenish the exhausted treasury.

The Financial Secretary recommends to Synod to be more specific in prescribing his duties ; and also the appointment of a Prudential Committee, consisting of three or more persons residing in the city of New-York, and another, of the same number, residing in the city of Albany, with whom we may consult ; and by counsel,

advice, and co-operation, we may be directed. In this suggestion your committee fully concur.

In conclusion, we are constrained to feel the obligation of the church to revive her drooping energies, and with invigorated faith, love, and zeal, devoting herself to the enlargement of the curtains of her tabernacle, and the unfurling of the banner of Shiloh on the desert waste.

The two objects are consistent with each other, for both are connected with the glory of the Redeemer, both contemplate the salvation of men through the Gospel of Christ. And on the principle, that there is that giveth and yet increaseth, we believe that a generous effort to extend the church abroad, will bring blessings into our own bosom, and cause the affections of the heart to circulate more warmly around our own temple, and altars, and fireside. And yet there is a peculiar claim that our own land and kindred have upon our sympathies and kindness. Christianity does not extinguish, but cherishes the spirit of evangelical patriotism. The holy Prophet remembered Jerusalem, alone his chief joy; Paul regarded with special anxiety his brethren, his kinsmen according to the flesh; and the Redeemer himself, "came unto his own," and shed tears of heartfelt tenderness and pity over the beloved city. Let us then look at home, and aim at strengthening our feeble churches, supplying the destitute with the means of grace, and planting the standard of the cross in every favorable region of our country where God may direct.

Let our benevolence, however, be expansive as that of the compassionate Redeemer himself, who has commanded his Gospel to be preached to all the world. And if the hearts of Christians in our communion were duly awake to the interests of their blessed Lord, there would be no lack of means. If each member of our churches would contribute one dollar a year to the cause of missions, we should have nearly \$24,000 to forward this glorious object: and how many are there who could give ten or twenty fold that amount. Or if only each family in the bounds of our congregations would

contribute a single dollar, the board would have \$17,500 to prosecute their important enterprise. And cannot the hearts and the hands of the people be opened? Could not the ministers and elders of the church set an example of liberality, and by making personal exertion in their respective congregations, bring something to aid in building the temple of the Lord?

The hearts of men are in the hands of God: his, too, is the silver and the gold; and perhaps the great secret of our deficiency, and enfeebled effort, and limited success, is the want of prayer—fervent, agonizing prayer—offered in faith, upon the promise and the power of the covenant-keeping and omnipotent Jehovah.

Zion will languish—the people cry in vain for bread—the heathen perish—and ignorance, idolatry, and death, reign on earth, “Until the Spirit be poured out upon us from on high, and the wilderness be a fruitful field, and the fruitful field be counted for a forest.”

Let the appeal for help be made to God. “Awake, awake, put on strength, O arm of the Lord.” Revive thine heritage; beautify thy people with holiness; go forth as the leader and commander of the Hosts of Israel; let the nations bow to the majesty of thy throne; the enemy be discomfited; and a triumphant shout of victory be heard;—“the kingdoms of the world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of his Christ.”

The receipts for the Domestic Board were \$5127 10; and the expenditures, \$5223 25—leaving a balance of \$96 15 due the Treasurer.

The report of the committee on the business of appointing the Financial Secretary, states the appointment of the Rev. Ransford Wells to this office, with a salary of \$1500, and that his agency commenced Sept. 5, 1842.

Your committee beg leave to submit the following resolutions:—

1st. *Resolved*, That the General Synod hereby appoint the Rev. Ransford Wells the Financial Secretary for another year, to commence from the 5th of September next; and that his salary be

**\$1300, and not exceeding \$200 for expenses, to be paid in the same manner as was arranged by the committee appointed by the last Synod, to fix the compensation, and specify the duties of the Financial Secretary.**

**2d. Resolved, That in accordance with the recommendation of the Particular Synod of New-York, "The General Synod spread annually upon their minutes the amount of money paid to the American Board of C. F. M.; the amount disbursed through the same board, for the missions of the Reformed Dutch Church, the persons to whom the same has been paid, and the amount paid to each; and that a rule be adopted to this effect."**

**3d. Resolved, That the Corresponding Secretaries of the four boards, be a Prudential Committee in the city of New-York, and the Rev. Isaac Wyckoff, D.D., Duncan Kennedy, Jacob Van Vechten, D.D., James Murphy, D.D.; and the Elder, John Q. Wilson, be the Prudential Committee within the bounds of the Particular Synod of Albany.**

The committee would call the attention of General Synod to a suggestion of the Board of Domestic Missions, upon the expediency of authorizing the board to appoint two ministers to visit the Western field.

**Resolved, That it is inexpedient to act upon this subject at present.**

All which is respectfully submitted,

CHARLES WHITEHEAD, *Chairman.*

The following is the account of the expenditures in behalf of the Foreign Missions of the Reformed Dutch Church for the year ending the 30th June, 1842.

*Expenses of Missionaries supported from funds contributed by the Reformed Dutch Church during the year, commencing July 1, 1841, and ending June 30, 1842.*

July 1 to Dec. 31, 1841.

Personal and family expenses of E. Doty,     **\$187 69**

Brought over,	\$187 69	
Personal & family expenses of Wm. J. Pohlman,	98 37	
“ “ Wm. Youngblood,	186 61	
	<hr/>	\$472 67
Expenses of native helpers, viz :		
Two Chinese teachers,	\$60 21	
Malay teacher,	30 88	
	<hr/>	91 09
Expenses for schools, viz :		
Chinese boarding-school,	29 30	
Malay do.	24 41	
	<hr/>	53 71
Expenses for building and repairs, viz :		
Toward the erection of a new dwelling-house,	440 54	
Chinese school-house and fixtures,	78 09	
Malay do. do.	18 46	
Repairing and finishing mission dwelling,	54 72	
Repairs on dwelling of Wm. Youngblood,	8 41	
	<hr/>	595 22
Incidental expenses, viz :		
Removals and travelling,	96 35	
House-rent, ten months,	51 10½	
Freight, boat-hire, paper, postage, &c.	18 00½	
	<hr/>	165 46½
July 1 to Dec. 31, 1841 :		
Personal expenses of A. C. Condit,	138 00	
Personal and family expenses of E. Nevius,	447 01½	
	<hr/>	585 01½
Incidentals, viz :		
House-rent,	96 00	
Teacher hire,	43 00	
Medicines and medical attendance,	80 75	
Travelling expenses, including passage-money from Penang to Singapore and thence to Calicut,	550 78½	
	<hr/>	770 53½



July 1 to Dec. 31, 1841 :

Personal expenses of J. P. Stryker, the last six months,	300 36
Do. do. F. B. Thompson,	333 30
Do. do. W. T. Van Doren,	642 59
House-rent, &c.	246 00
Teacher's hire,	125 00

Incidental expenses, viz :

Physicians' and Apoth. bill,	* Rs. 330.25	
Military tax,	6.00	
Postages,	69.65	
Stamps,	5.50	
Exps. of Mr. Thompson's embarkation,	87.00	
Passage of do. to Sourabaya,	300.00	
Trip of do. to Bintenzorg,	34.00	
Stolen from Treasury,	250.00	
Malay tracts,	145.00	
“ manuscripts,	52.16	
Notary's paper,	18.00	
Freight on boxes, &c.	31.54	
Expenses of removal,	14.50	
Cash sent to Borneo for brethren,	75.00	
“ “ Sourabaya for W. J. Pohlman,	50.00	
Miscellaneous,	119.48	
	<hr/>	
	1,588.08	622 72

Jan. 1 to June 30, 1842 :

Personal and family expenses of E. Doty,	188 09	
“ “ “ W. J. Pohlman,	203 80	
“ “ “ F. B. Thomson,	254 73	
“ “ “ W. Youngblood,	206 14	
	<hr/>	852 76

\* The value of the Rupee varies according to the rate of exchange. At the date of the above account, it appears to have been worth about 39½ cents.—S.C.

## Expenses of native helpers, viz:

Three Chinese teachers, two for six months,  
one for three months,

99 00½

One Malay,

27 23

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126 23½

## Expenses of schools, viz:

Chinese boys' boarding-school,

22 40½

" girls' do.

18 50½

Malay boys' do.

31 25

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72 15½

## Expenses of buildings, rent, &amp;c. viz:

Completing new house,

516 67½

Repairs on premises and buildings occupied by  
missionaries,

24 56½

Rent of two dwellings, ten months, *a f* 15,

46 15½

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587 39

## Expenses for travelling and removals,

262 67½

## Incidental expenses, viz:

Physician, attendance on W. J. Pohlman and  
family,

20 00

Purchases in Batavia, for mission,

15 18

Freight, postage, boat-hire, &c.

30 83½

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66 01½

Personal expenses of A. C. Condit,

79 51

Personal and family expenses of E. Nevius,

289 36½

## Incidentals, viz:

House-rent,

109 30

Medicines,

12 09

Travel'g expenses from Calicut to Ostaramund,

278 59

Cost of drafts sent from Madras,

46½

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769 32

Personal and family expenses of W. T. Van  
Doren, Rs. 377.30

Personal expenses of J. P. Stryker, 423.52

Balance due F. B. Thompson per acc.

ct. Dec. 31, 1841, *a f* 82.29 less bills paid

and purchases in Batavia, *a f* 24.91½

57.37½

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858 19½

## Travelling expenses, viz :

Passage of Wm. T. Van Doren and family to England,	Rs. 1,600.00
Stores and embarkation of do.	64.18
Cash taken with him, bill on London, £85 <i>a f</i> 12½,	1,083.75
20 sovereigns <i>a f</i> 13,	260.00
	<u>1,343.75</u>
Stores and embarkation of J. P. Stryker, for Singapore,	57.52
	<u>3065 45</u>

## Incidental expenses, viz :

Physician and medicines,	199 92
House-rent,	75 00
Premium and duty on silver money,	87 90
Purchases for Borneo mission,	54 50
Teachers, coolies, postage, etc.	118 55-535 87

Rs. 4459.51½-1748 32

Expenses of Dr. Ferris, in part,	\$200 00
“ Mr. Steele,	67 66
Passage of Mr. Steele from Boston to Batavia,	200 00
Travelling expenses of Mr. Halloway and Mr. Shultz,	20 00

Books, periodicals, and various articles purchased, including freight, cartage, insurance, and incidental expenses,	369 75
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Difference between cost of £800 sterling and amount received by the missionaries for bills on London, estimated at 10,	384 00
	<u>1241 41</u>

Expenses of Mr. Abeel,	800 00
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\$11,529 95

E. E.

H. HILL, *Treasurer A. B. C. F. M.**Boston, May 11, 1843.*

The Committee on Nominations having reported, Synod proceeded to fill the places of those in the Board of Missions of the General Synod, whose term of service has expired. On counting the ballots, it appeared that the following were elected, viz: Rev. William C. Brownlee, D.D., Thomas E. Vermilye, D.D., George H. Fisher, George Dubois, Thomas M. Strong, D.D., Ransford Wells, Matthias Lusk, and Messrs. Theodore Frelinghuysen, Thomas C. Doremus, Peter D. Vroom, Cornelius R. Suydam, and Cornelius L. Hardenburgh.

Mr. M. W. Woodward was elected for two years, in the place of Mr. Cornelius Heyer, who has been removed by death.

The Committee on Nominations having reported, Synod proceeded to fill the places of those in the Board of Foreign Missions whose term of service has expired. On counting the ballots, it appeared that the following were chosen, viz: Rev. Thomas De Witt, D.D., Maurice W. Dwight, Ransford Wells, Isaac S. Demund, and Messrs. William R. Thompson, and Walter W. Townsend.

The Committee on Nominations having reported double the number of persons, from whom to elect an individual to preach the annual missionary sermon, the Synod proceeded to the election, when the Rev. John A. Yates, D.D., was chosen *primarius*, and the Rev. George H. Fisher, *secundus*.

## ARTICLE XIX.

### *Widows' Fund.*

*Resolved*, That the Committee on the Widows' Fund be instructed to inquire into the expediency of adopting some rule, whereby greater security shall be given to subscribers as to the stability of the principles and management of said fund.

The Committee on the Widows' Fund reported, and their report was adopted, and is as follows:—

The Committee on the Widows' Fund beg leave respectfully to report—

That the whole amount of that fund, up to May 31, 1843, was eight thousand seven hundred and thirty-two dollars, and eighteen cents, of which eight thousand dollars are invested at 7 per cent. interest.

The whole increase of the fund during the past year, from all sources, appears to be twelve hundred and twenty-five dollars, and twenty-one cents. At the same rate of increase, should nothing be withdrawn by subscribers, the fund at the close of the present year will exceed \$10,000; and consequently become available to subscribers, or those interested: and your committee indulge the hope, that this statement will have the effect of greatly increasing the number of subscribers.

The whole number of subscribers who have paid any thing to the fund is fifty-one, of whom seven have withdrawn their subscriptions, leaving a balance of forty-four. Twenty-nine ministers are reported as subscribers, who have made no payment, the reason for which neglect your committee have not learned. If, in the opinion of those non-paying subscribers, there is any defect in the rules, security, or management of the fund, it becomes them to suggest a remedy, both on their own account, and for the benefit of those who have made payments. Should it be an objection in the minds of any, that the rules of the fund are liable to be changed by a majority of Synod, and consequently by a majority of those not interested, this objection might be obviated by the adoption of the rule, that no change shall be made in the nature or management of the fund, except by a vote of two-thirds of the paying subscribers. Such a rule your committee think would be equitable, and tend to increase confidence in the fund, and therefore recommend its adoption.

Your committee regret to find that there is apparently an apathy on the subject of this fund among the ministers of our church, which it is difficult to explain. Of the whole amount paid in, exclusive of interest, but \$3000 have been derived from ministers. Whether this apathy results from a deficiency of means to make

the required payments, or from a lack of interest on the subject, or lastly, from an expectation that neither they nor their families will ever need the benefits of the fund, must be left to each individual to determine. Your committee, however, cannot but regard it as to be deplored.

Upon the whole, your committee believe the fund is eminently entitled to the cordial support of every minister and congregation of the Reformed Dutch Church.

All which is respectfully submitted.

JOSEPH WILSON, *Chairman.*

Whereas this Synod deem it of great importance that measures be taken to increase the Widows' Fund of this church, therefore

*Resolved,* That the Rev. James M. Matthews, D. D., John Knox, D. D., Duncan Kennedy, and the Elders Abraham Van Nest and John Steward, be appointed a special committee, with power to take such measures as they shall deem most available for that object, and that they report to this Synod at its next meeting.

## ARTICLE XX.

### *Particularia.*

The following communication was received from the Rev. Thomas De Witt, D. D., relative to the preparing a history of the Reformed Dutch Church, for which he had been appointed, which was referred to a special committee, consisting of the Rev. Cornelius D. Westbrook, D. D., Benjamin C. Taylor, D. D., and the Elder John D. Keese :—

*To the General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church in North America :*

The General Synod, at its session in 1841, honored me with an appointment to prepare a History of our Reformed Dutch Church in North America. The first object to which my attention was naturally called, was to search for, and procure any materials still ex-

isting, which might aid in the preparation of such a work. I found that the archives of General Synod contained almost nothing except the succession of Minutes since the independent organization under the "Articles of Union," in 1771. In 1792 the following resolution was adopted by General Synod, "*Resolved*, That it be enjoined on classes to make diligent investigation, and transmit to the Synod, at its next session, for its archives, all the books and papers of the original Coetus, and of the subsequent Coetus, and Conferentie which may be discovered; also, that they furnish succinct and full accounts of the time of the formation of their churches, and by whom constituted, with an historical account of remarkable incidents which have from time to time transpired, in order that such may be preserved among the papers of the church as materials for its history. Nothing appears to have been brought into the archives of Synod as the result of this resolution. It is deeply to be regretted that it was not at the time diligently and faithfully attended to, as then many documents would have been recovered and preserved, and much traditionary information, well authenticated, might have been gathered which are now lost. It was not till 1841 that the volume containing the minutes of the original Coetus, and the Conferentie, subsequent to the division in 1755, were recovered to the Synod. They were found among the papers of the Rev. Dr. Romeyn, of Schenectady, and were presented by his grandsons, the Drs. Beck. The Minutes of the Coetus, after the division, in 1755, have never been recovered. The valuable documents placed in the hands of our ecclesiastical bodies, previous to 1771, came into the hands of individual ministers, instead of being carefully preserved, and finally became lost and destroyed. The Synod of North Holland was in the habit of transmitting annually its minutes, in beautiful manuscript and form, from an early period through the last century. These became scattered in the hands of individuals, and within three years about five or six of these have been recovered from various sources. Owing to the disuse of the Dutch language, and the branching out of families in their descent, Dutch manuscripts have been neglected and lost, and in many cases treated as waste-paper, so that after the

most careful inquiry at points promising the most success, little, if any thing, has been gained. Although, on this account, the time has gone by for much success in searching for manuscripts, or information bearing on the earlier history of our church ; the necessity becomes more urgent for rendering that investigation thorough and minute. These become like the leaves of the sybil, more valuable as they become fewer and scarce. I was anxious to fill up the earlier history of our church, of which only a vague outline has been furnished in the sketches heretofore given, and also to furnish the historical reminiscences of the " olden times of our Dutch settlements." For this end, I addressed circulars to a large number of our ministers, and several laymen, requesting them to aid in the work assigned to me, by examining the consistorial records, and any documents which might be found in the possession of the churches and individuals, and collect well authenticated traditionary information, and communicate the result to me by June, 1842. In that result I have been disappointed, and but very little has been added to the materials before possessed. From most of the most important earlier settlements and churches nothing has been received in this channel. I am now persuaded, that in order to procure the materials which may yet by diligent investigation be obtained, it is necessary for the individual engaged in preparing this historical work to possess leisure and means to visit personally different parts of the church, and personally to make thorough research. I am, of course, by my ministerial and pastoral employments prevented from this, and unaided by the desired co-operation I must relinquish the plan as originally designed as to fulness and extent.

Previous to the departure of J. R. Brodhead, Esq., the agent of the state of New-York, to collect in Europe materials for its colonial history, I suggested to him my desire that he would, when in Holland, seek access to the minutes and archives of the Classis of Amsterdam, and of the Synod of North Holland, under whose auspices and care our churches were planted and nurtured. He readily and cheerfully attended to this request. He was most kindly received by the Rev. Mr. Prins, Stated Clerk of the Classis of Amster-



dam, who freely submitted to his inspection the minutes and papers of the classis. He soon discovered a large amount of valuable materials in the file of the original letters and documents received from the ministers, churches, and ecclesiastical assemblies in America, and also in the copies of the correspondence of the Committee of the Classis with these ministers, churches, &c., recorded in volumes. The Classis of Amsterdam, at the request of Mr. Brodhead, granted the loan of the original letters and documents received from America to the General Synod of our church for four years, at the end of which they are to be safely returned. He was at the same time allowed to take copies of the correspondence of the classis, which he directed at the expense of Synod. These papers and documents were received in good order in the latter part of last September. Mr. Brodhead was greatly aided by J. W. Vandebroek, Esq. late U. S. Consul, and an elder in the Reformed Church in gaining access for him to the classis, and by superintending the copying of the correspondence, and forwarding the whole to New-York. The thanks of the Synod were last year deservedly voted at their last session to Mr. Brodhead for the deep interest he had manifested, and the labor he had taken in this matter. The correspondence copied comprises between eight and nine hundred pages foolscap folio, and has recently been bound up in elegant and substantial style. The original papers forwarded were comprised in seven bundles. Two of these relate to the German Reformed Churches in Pennsylvania, which were also formed by the Classis of Amsterdam, and continued under their care till 1785, and will supply most valuable materials for compiling the history of the German Reformed Church in this country. The remaining five bundles refer to our churches, and are very valuable. The letters and documents received from America were carefully filed, and preserved in excellent order. They are particularly useful as to the earlier period of our church, concerning which there is almost an entire dearth of information among ourselves. They also spread out in fulness points in the subsequent history, which, without them, could only be faintly sketched. It is desirable that these original documents should be in the

permanent possession of the General Synod, if the Classis of Amsterdam could be induced to part with them. If they cannot be retained, the most important of them at least should be copied before their return to Holland. The first bundle contains thirty-nine letters from New-Netherlands, from 1648 to 1664. The second contains ninety-four letters and papers from New-York, from 1665 to 1700. The remaining three bundles reach to 1785. Circumstances have prevented me as yet from paying much attention to the investigation of these documents. I propose soon to enter upon a regular examination of them for the use designed. The Lord willing, it is my desire to prepare from ecclesiastical documents in my hands, the History of the Reformed Dutch Church in North America, from its first planting until the period of its independent organization under the Articles of Union, in 1771. The materials from which this is to be drawn, are all in the Dutch language, and will require some time and care to make the proper use of them. The History of the Church subsequently, may be continued by any brother, not conversant with the Dutch language. Having sent out numerous circulars, and published a general circular in the *Christian Intelligencer*; and being disappointed in the desired co-operation to any extent, and the little amount of information received, I feel that I must decline the remainder of the plan designed by me. Whoever undertakes to fill up that plan properly, will find the necessity of personal research in various parts, which I am entirely precluded from bestowing. I propose also to prepare a short sketch of the History of the Reformed Church of Holland, and its standards. I again express to the General Synod my sense of obligation for the trust committed to me, and my need of their prayer, that in the discharge of it, I may enjoy the direction of the Spirit of Grace.

THOMAS DE WITT.

*New-York, June 5, 1843.*

The committee submitted their report, accompanied with certain original early documents. The report was accepted, adopted, and is as follows:—

The Committee on the Communication of Rev. Thomas De Witt, D. D., beg leave to report—

That in the examination of this interesting document, they cannot but highly appreciate the laudable zeal, and untiring industry of the able divine, whom the Synod has selected to write the History of the Reformed Dutch Church in this country : and, as it will be printed and published among the minutes of Synod, Dr. De Witt's own representations will better satisfy the churches, than any other reference to, or extracts from it, by the committee.

Notwithstanding the failure of Dr. De Witt's application to the classes and consistories, for the olden papers in their possession, your committee are of opinion, that much invaluable matter for the history of our church, may yet be recovered from the archives of the classes, consistories, and individuals in the church. The failure of this application can be easily accounted for. Few men can spare the time, or are willing to take the trouble of such a search ; and still smaller is the number of those who are sufficiently acquainted with the Dutch language, and the decyphering of ancient manuscripts.

To aid the historian, therefore, in his important work, the committee recommend the adoption of the following resolution :—

*Resolved*, That Dr. De Witt be, and hereby is authorized, to employ a suitable person, at a fair compensation, to visit such classes and churches as he may direct, in the course of the ensuing year, for the purposes above-mentioned ; and that Dr. De Witt be authorized to draw on the Treasurer of the General Synod for the necessary sum.

To give a specimen of what may be done in this way, your committee present herewith a number of important documents obtained on a single application in this city : many of these are in the Dutch language, of dates as far back as 1770 ; several from the fatherland.

Among them will be found copies of two autograph letters, between the Minister and Consistory of the Reformed Dutch Church

of Albany, and the father of his country, in the year 1782. The originals were submitted to us for our inspection, and the copies furnished us by Judge Wilson of this city, a member of this Synod.

As Dr. De Witt declines proceeding any further in his contemplated history, than until the period of the independent organization of the Reformed Dutch Church in North America, in 1771, your committee suggests the propriety of passing the following resolutions :—

*Resolved*, That Synod earnestly request Dr. De Witt, to reconsider this subject ; and they encourage the hope, that he will consent to carry out the design of his appointment, by continuing the history of the church down to the present time.

*Resolved*, That this Synod commend the whole subject to the favorable regard of all our ministers and churches, and bespeak for the persons engaged in it their cordial co-operation and support.

All which is respectfully submitted,

CORNELIUS D. WESTBROOK, *Chairman*.

*Albany, June 12, 1843.*

*Resolved*, That the Rev. Dr. Brownlee be requested to preach a sermon on Romanism, before the Synod, on the evening of the eighth day of the session, in the North Reformed Dutch Church in this city.

The communication containing the bequest of the Rev. Elias Van Benschoten, was read.

*Whereas*, The Classis of Illinois, at the present time not having a sufficient number of ministers in that state to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, and application having already been made to the Synod's Board of Missions for more missionary laborers to be sent into that field, and there being a prospect that one or more will go forth to locate in the aforesaid state, therefore

*Resolved*, That such missionaries as the Synod's Board of Missions may send to the State of Illinois, be considered as set off from

the respective classes to which they previously belonged, to the Classis of Illinois, upon their being dismissed in good and regular standing.

*Resolved*, That the Treasurer of General Synod be authorized to pay the expenses of the committee appointed to meet a corresponding committee from the German Reformed Church on the subject of a closer union between the two churches.

*Resolved*, That the great object of the American Bible Society, namely, to furnish the Holy Scriptures, "without note or comment," to those who are destitute, is an object which is assuming an increased importance of late, from the efforts made to diffuse Popish doctrines and customs, both among our own population and at the stations of American missions abroad.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to each pastor connected with this body, to preach once in the course of the ensuing year, on the subject of the "Bible as the only infallible rule of faith and practice;" and also, to co-operate, with efficiency, in sustaining the cause of the Bible in his own vicinity, as well as in aiding the national society in its general operations.

## ARTICLE XXI.

### *Benevolent and Religious Institutions.*

The Rev. Dr. Edwards, at his request, was heard before the Synod on the morning of the first day of the session, on the subject of the Sanctification of the Sabbath. Whereupon, it was

*Resolved*, That the subject on which the Rev. Dr. Edwards has addressed the Synod, be referred to the Committee on the State of Religion.

Fifty copies of the Thirty-third Annual Report of the A. B. C. F. Missions were received, and distributed among the members.

The Rev. Ornan Eastman, one of the Secretaries of the American Tract Society, at his request, addressed the Synod on the morn-

ing of the seventh day of the session, on the operations of that society ; and presented to the Synod several copies of the last annual report, and of the American Messenger. Whereupon, it was

*Resolved*, That the American Tract Society be earnestly commended to the continued favor of the churches.

A letter was received from the Recording Secretary of the New-York State Colonization Society, in regard to the operations of that society. Whereupon, it was

*Resolved*, That the churches be requested to take up a collection in behalf of the American Colonization Society, on the fourth of July, or on some Sabbath as near that time as practicable.

#### ARTICLE XXII.

##### *Pastoral Letter.*

Nothing occurred.

#### ARTICLE XXIII.

##### *Synodical Archives.*

Nothing occurred.

#### ARTICLE XXIV.

##### *Accounts.*

The door-keeper's bills, for attendance, stationary, &c., amounting to \$20 45, were presented, and ordered to be paid.

#### ARTICLE XXV.

##### *Resumption and Close.*

*Resolved*, That the Stated Clerk publish one thousand copies of the Minutes of this Synod, duly authenticated ; and that he distribute among the classes the number of copies directed by them.

Agreeably to the standing rule of Synod, the roll was called at the close of the session, when it appeared that the following members were absent without permission, viz:—Rev. John H. Duryea, Ebenezer Wiggins, Charles P. Wack, David Murdock; and the Elders, James Van Blarcom, and Cornelius Viele.

*Resolved, Unanimously,* That the thanks of Synod be presented to the Pastors and Consistories of the Third Middle Dutch Churches of this city, for the use of their churches for holding the meeting of Synod, and also to the numerous families who have hospitably entertained its members.

The minutes were read and approved.

#### ARTICLE XXVI.

##### *Adjournment.*

Synod adjourned to meet in the Reformed Dutch Church, in the Village of Poughkeepsie, on the first Wednesday in June, 1844, at two o'clock P. M., and was closed with singing a part of the one hundred and thirty-seventh Psalm, prayer, and pronouncing the Apostolic blessing by the President.

W. C. BROWNLEE, *President.*

R. D. VAN KLEEK, *Adressor.*

RANSFORD WELLS, }  
JOHN P. KNOX, } *Cl'ks pro tem.*

Official copy from the original minutes,

THOS. M. STRONG, *Stated Clerk.*

THE  
ACTS AND PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
GENERAL SYNOD  
OF THE  
Reformed Protestant Dutch Church  
IN  
NORTH AMERICA,  
AT  
POUGHKEEPSIE, JUNE, 1844.

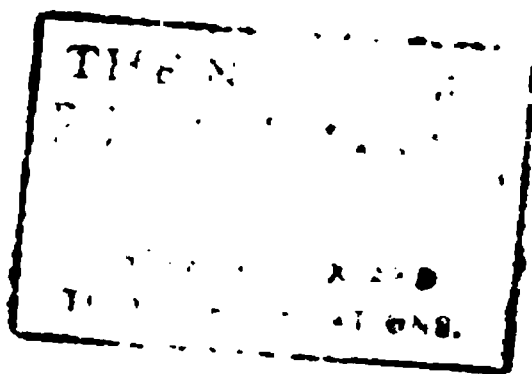
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NEW-YORK :

J. POST, PRINTER, 74 MAIDEN-LANE.

1844.





# ACTS AND PROCEEDINGS

*Of the General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church in North America, convened in the Village of Poughkeepsie, on Wednesday, the fifth day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-four. The session continued from the fifth to the thirteenth day of June, inclusive.*

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## FORMATION OF SYNOD.

### ARTICLE I.

#### *Opening of Synod.*

The Synod was opened with prayer by the Rev. Richard D. Van Kleeck, the Adressor of the last General Synod, who preached a sermon on the evening of the first day of the session, from I Peter i. 1: "*like precious faith.*"

### ARTICLE II.

#### *Members Present.*

#### FROM THE PARTICULAR SYNOD OF NEW-YORK.

##### *1. From the Classis of New-York.*

Rev. E. H. May, Peter I. Van Pelt, D. D.

Elders, Abraham Van Nest, Theodorus Brett.

2. *From the South Classis of New-York.*

Rev. Isaac Ferris, D. D., S. H. Meeker, and John E. Miller.\*

Elders, Walter W. Townsend,\* Peter Doig.†

3. *From the Classis of New-Brunswick.*

Rev. A. A. Marselus, D. D. Demarest, and Samuel B. How, D. D.

Elders, John H. Stoothoff, Henry V. Demott.

4. *From the Classis of Bergen.*

Rev. John Garretson, Alexander H. Warner, and John L. Chapman.

Elders, William Stephens, George Zabriskie, and Timothy Edwards.\*

5. *From the Classis of Paramus.*

Rev. William R. Bogardus,‡ Charles S. Hegeman.\*

Elder, Abraham Tallman.\*

6. *From the South Classis of Long-Island.*

Rev. Martin V. Schoonmaker, Abraham I. Labagh, and Richard D. Van Kleek.||

Elders, John Williamson, Samuel G. Stryker, and John Ditmas.

7. *From the North Classis of Long-Island.*

Rev. Jacob Schoonmaker, D. D., Garret I. Garretson, William R. Gordon.

Elders, Theodorus Snediker, James Currie.

\* Took his seat on the *second* day of the session.

† Took his seat on the *seventh* day of the session.

‡ Obtained leave of absence on the *fourth* day of the session.

|| Succeeded on the *second* day of the session by his *secundus*, Rev. Thomas M. Strong, D. D.

*From the Classis of Philadelphia.*

Rev. Peter Labagh, Gabriel Ludlow, A. O. Halsey.\*

Elders, Peter H. Hoagland,† Dennis Van Liew, and Henry Duryee.‡

*9. From the Classis of Poughkeepsie.*

Rev. Alexander M. Mann,‡ William S. Heyer,|| and Brogun Hoff.\*

Elders, Henry I. Kip, Charles P. Adriance.

*10. From the Classis of Passaic.*

Rev. William I. Thompson, Joseph Wilson, and John A. Staats.  
Elder, C. B. Doremus.||

*11. From the Classis of Illinois.*

Rev. Abraham D. Wilson.§

Elders,                   \*                   \*                   \*

## FROM THE PARTICULAR SYNOD OF ALBANY:

*1. From the Classis of Albany.*

Rev. Ransford Wells, Oscar H. Gregory, and Ralph Willis.

Elders, Leonard G. Ten Eyck,¶ Samuel Crawford, and James Bailey.

\* Took his seat on the *third* day of the session.

† Obtained leave of absence after the *third* day of the session.

‡ Succeeded on the *third* day of the session by the Rev. Jacob D. Fonda, the *primarius*, who retained the seat till the *seventh* day, when it was resumed by the Rev. Mr. Mann.

|| Took his seat on the *second* day of the session.

§ Took his seat on the *third* day of the session, and obtained leave of absence on the *sixth* day.

¶ Obtained leave of absence on the *fourth* day of the session, and returned on the *seventh*.

2. *From the Classis of Ulster.*

Rev. Abraham Fort, Cornelius Wyckoff, and J. M'Farland.\*

Elders, Elliot Thompson,† James U. Emrick, and Elijah Alliger.\*

3. *From the Classis of Rensselaer.*

Rev. John Gosman, D. D., Benjamin Van Zandt, and Edwin Holmes.

Elders, Peter Gardinier,‡ John Mynderse.

4. *From the Classis of Washington.*

Rev. David A. Jones, Joel Wood, and Hugh M. Boyd.

Elders, Henry Frazee,‡ and B. C. Schermerhorn.\*

5. *From the Classis of Montgomery.*

Rev. James Stevenson, J. L. Stark,\* and James Murphy, D. D.\*

Elders, Edward Walter, Henry Loucks, and John Frey.

6. *From the Classis of Schoharie.*

Rev. Alanson B. Chittenden, William Lockhead.§

Elders,                   \*                   \*                   \*

7. *From the Classis of Schenectady.*

Rev. Jacob Van Vechten, D. D., John B. Steele, and Abraham J. Swits.

Elder, Aaron Putnam.||

\* Took his seat on the *second* day of the session.

† Obtained leave of absence on the *fourth* day of the session, and was succeeded on the *sixth* day of the session by the *secundus*, John I. Houghtaling.

‡ Obtained leave of absence after the *fourth* day of the session, and returned on the *seventh*.

|| Obtained leave of absence on the *fourth* day of the session.

§ Took his seat on the *seventh* day of the session.

8. *From the Classis of Cayuga.*

Rev. Gustavus Abeel, D. D., John C. F. Hoes.

Elders,                   \*                   \*                   \*

9. *From the Classis of Orange.*

Rev. Samuel W. Mills, James Demarest, and Abraham B. Van Zandt.

Elder, Jacob Jansen and Ephraim Smith.

10. *From the Classis of Greene.*

Rev. E. De Puy.\*

Elder, William Schuneman.

11. *From the Classis of Michigan.*

Rev.                   \*                   \*                   \*

Elders,               \*                   \*                   \*

## ARTICLE III.

*Moderators:*

The Rev. Jacob Van Vechten, D. D., was chosen President.

The Rev. John Garretson was chosen Adsector.

The Rev. Garrit I. Garretson and Ransford Wells were chosen Clerks *pro tem*.

## ARTICLE IV.

*Reading of the Minutes.*

The Minutes of the last ordinary session of the Synod were read.

\* Took his seat on the *second* day of the session.

**ACTS OF THE SYNOD.****ARTICLE I.***Orders and Rules.*

These were read.

**ARTICLE II.***Standing Committees.*

The following were appointed :

*On the Professorate.*—Rev. Gabriel Ludlow, Peter Labagh, and Ransford Wells, and the Elders Abraham Van Nest and John Frey.

*On Synodical Minutes.*—Rev. E. H. May, A. B. Chittenden, and Abraham I. Swits, and the Elders Henry Frazee and Aaron Putnam.

*On Missions.*—Rev. Isaac Ferris, D. D., J. C. F. Hoes and S. H. Meeker, and the Elders Theodorus Brett and George Zabriskie.

*On the State of Religion.*—Rev. Samuel B. How, D. D., John B. Steele and David A. Jones, and the Elders Edward Walter and John Ditmas.

*On Overtures and Judicial Business.*—Rev. John Garretson, Jacob Schoonmaker, D. D., and Edwin Holmes, and the Elders Henry Loucks and J. Currie.

*On Accounts.*—Rev. Peter I. Van Pelt, D. D., Hugh M. Boyd, and Abraham Fort, and the Elders William Schuneman and William Stephens.

*On Correspondence.* — Rev. Gustavus Abeel, D. D., James Demarest and John L. Chapman, and the Elders L. G. Ten Eyck and J. Jansen.

*On Education.*—Rev. John Gosman, D. D., Alexander H. Warner and Benjamin Van Zandt, and the Elders Peter Gardiner and Samuel Crawford.

*On Nominations.*—Rev. Oscar H. Gregory, Hugh M. Boyd, Ralph Willis, and the Elders Charles P. Adriance and Elliot Thompson.

*On the Widows' Fund.*—Rev. Joseph Wilson, William R. Gordon, Edward H. May and James Murphy, D. D., and the Elders Peter H. Hoagland and Theodorus Snediker.

### ARTICLE III.

#### *Communications.*

The Stated Clerk laid before Synod a communication which had been addressed to him by Messrs John A. Lott and John B. Zabriskie, executors of the estate of Miss Maria Freeborne, late of the town of Flatbush, L. I., deceased, apprising Synod that Miss Freeborne had bequeathed to the General Synod the sum of one thousand dollars, “to be appropriated to the education and support of some suitable pious young man, who shall be preparing for the Gospel Ministry in the Reformed Dutch Church,” to be paid, with any interest that may have accrued thereon from the time of her death, to the treasurer of General Synod; and that they expect to pay this legacy in the month of July next.

The communication was referred to the Committee on Education.

The following report was received from the Board of Superintendents of the Theological Seminary, which was referred to the Committee on the Professorate:—

The Committee on Synodical Reports, reported, and their report was accepted, adopted, and is as follows:

The Board met in the Theological Hall at New Brunswick, July 18th, 1843, and continued their session till July 20th.



The following members appeared and took their seats viz :

Rev. N. I. Marselus,	Rev. Wm. H. Campbell,
" J. A. Van Doren,	" Wm. R. Bogardus,
" A. H. Myers,	" J. Van Vechten, D. D.
" C. C. Van Arsdale,	" J. C. Van Dervoort,
" J. Garretson,	" J. H. Pitcher,
" A. B. Chittenden,	" J. Searle,
" H. Doolittle,	" Thos. M. Strong, D. D.
" W. Brush,	

The Rev. N. I. Marselus was chosen President, and the Rev. John Garretson, Clerk, pro tem.

The Annual Report of the Theological Faculty was received, containing the following list of students, viz :

#### SENIOR CLASS.

H. D. Ganse,	C. P. Van Wyck,
N. D. Williamson,	G. R. Williamson.     4

#### MIDDLE CLASS.

W. A. Cornell,	J. Gardner,
W. V. V. Mabon,	D. McNeish,
J. L. K. Miller,	P. D. Oakey,
J. L. See,	W. J. R. Taylor,
W. Thompson,	C. Van Romont,
Edwin Vedder,	A. G. Vermilye.
W. H. Watson.	

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#### JUNIOR CLASS.

W. Bailey,	G. Boyse,
J. H. M. Knox,	J. Lansing,
A. Lloyd,	W. A. Miller,
C. Millne,	J. Minor,
B. Romaine,	J. Simonson,

T. C. Strong,	G. Talmage,	
G. Van Nest,	A. R. Van Nest,	
J. Talmage,	J. N. Voorhies,	
J. West,	A. Wyckoff,	18
Total,		<hr/> 35

Mr. See, of the Middle Class, has obtained a dispensation from the General Synod, to pursue his studies elsewhere.

Mr. Vedder has absented himself, on account of pecuniary difficulties, and is still absent.

Messrs. Watson, J. L. K. Miller, and Vermilye, of the Middle Class, and Romaine, and A. R. Van Nest, of the Junior Class, have been compelled to withdraw from the seminary, on account of ill health. Mr. Gardiner has lost four weeks of the present term, being engaged in teaching. Mr. Boyse has been absent during the last term, and has as yet communicated no reason to the faculty.

The report of the professors complains of the want of punctuality in attendance, on the part of many of the students, who, indulging in absences from the city, frequently neglect the lecture rooms. It also represents Mr. Charles Millne as so negligent in his studies, as to have merited the admonition of the faculty, and in consequence, as having left the seminary.

On the other hand, it bears testimony to the "order, and christian deportment of the students as a body," and also of their usefulness in sustaining such means of grace as are not prohibited by the laws of the institution.

With respect to the absences occasioned by sickness, or pecuniary considerations, the faculty profess themselves at a loss to determine how long, and for what cause, a student may be absent, and yet resume his place in his class, there being no laws to regulate them on this subject. Therefore,

*Resolved*, That the decision of such cases be left to the faculty, subject to the revision of the board.

In the case of Mr. Charles Millne, it was

*Resolved*, That the name of Mr. Charles Millne, be stricken from the list of students.

With regard to those whose absence from the lecture rooms, has given ground of complaint,

*Resolved*, That such neglect is considered by the board as highly censurable, and these students are hereby solemnly enjoined to be punctual in future.

A communication was received from the Professor of Didactic and Polemic Theology, suggesting to the board the propriety of exempting the students of the senior class from the obligation of attending the *reading* of the lectures on Didactic Theology.

*Resolved*, That the students of the Senior Class be permitted to use their own pleasure in respect to this attendance.

The students of the several classes were examined by the professors in the various studies of their respective departments. This examination was, throughout, highly satisfactory. The students have not only made very respectable progress in the acquisition of knowledge, but have been trained to the use of their own minds in the investigation of truth.

The members of the Senior Class were examined on their personal piety, and their views in desiring to enter the ministry. They also exhibited specimens of sermonizing and preaching.

*Resolved*, That the examination be sustained, and that the following young gentlemen be recommended to the professors for the usual certificates :

H. D. Ganse,

N. D. Williamson,

G. P. Van Wyck,

G. R. Williamson.

The seats of the following members of the board become vacant at the next meeting of the General Synod, viz :

Rev. N. I. Marselus, of the Classis of New-York.

“ Wm. R. Bogardus, “ “ “ Paramus.

Rev. Wm. Brush,	of the Classis of Ulster.
" J. A. Van Doren,	" " " " New Brunswick.
" J. C. Vandervoort,	" " " " Rensselaer,
" Abm. Polhemus,	" " " " Poughkeepsie.

At the last meeting of the Particular Synod of New York, the Classis of Long Island was divided into the North Classis and South Classis of Long Island. It will therefore be necessary to appoint a member of the board from each of these classes, and the seat now occupied by Dr. Strong, is vacated, since the Classis of Long Island has ceased to be.

According to the suggestion of the Synod, the board resolved, that the Commencement of the Theological Seminary be held on the Thursday preceding the fourth Wednesday of July.

*Resolved*, That so long as the plan for holding a Theological Commencement shall be continued, the latter clause of the 2d Sec. of Art. II. of the Plan of the Theological Seminary, which prescribes that a sermon shall be preached during the session of the Board of Superintendents, be suspended, and that the General Synod be requested to allow such suspension.

The board consider the prospects of the seminary as very encouraging, and as affording the hope of soon supplying all our churches with a devoted and efficient ministry.

In view of the whole, the board feel that they have abundant cause of gratitude to God, the author of all good.

All which is respectfully submitted,

N. I. MARSELUS, *President*.

A true copy of original minutes,

RANSFORD WELLS, *Stated Clerk*.

A communication was received from the Clerk of the Theological Faculty, accompanied with a memorial from the students in the Theological Seminary, setting forth certain difficulties relative to the holding of a Theological Commencement, in conformity

to the resolution adopted by the Synod at their last session, (p. 247,) and requesting that the said resolution be reconsidered. The papers were referred to the Committee on the Professorate.

A communication was received from Mr. Isaac Leonard K. Miller, lately a member of the Middle Class in the Theological Seminary, requesting a dispensation of the remainder of his theological course, accompanied with certain certificates, which was referred to the Committee on the Professorate.

Communications were received from Mr. M. W. Woodward, H. H. Van Vliet and Cornelius R. Suydam, resigning their seats as members of the Board of Missions of the General Synod, which were referred to the Committee on Nominations.

Communications were received recommending Messrs. W. H. Ten Eyck, Calvin Case, Hermon J. G. Gulden and — Sloat, for aid from the education funds of Synod, in the prosecution of studies preparatory to the Gospel Ministry, which were referred to the Committee on the Professorate.

A catalogue of one hundred and forty-eight volumes in the Dutch language, presented by the Rev. Zacharias H. Kuypers to the Library of the Theological Seminary, was presented to the Synod, and referred to the Committee on the Professorate.

A communication was received from the Rev. Samuel R. Fisher, of the German Reformed Church, transmitting and presenting to the Synod a copy of the "Exercises on the Heidleburgh Catechism," which has been composed and published by him.

*Resolved*, That the above work be referred to a special committee, consisting of the Rev. Gustavus Abeel, D. D., Garrit I. Garretson and John E. Miller, and the Elders Timothy Edwards and Ephraim Smith.

A communication was received from the Rev. Professor M'Clelland, setting forth his reasons for declining to accede to the

request of the last General Synod, that he give instruction on the Evidences of Christianity in Rutgers College, which was referred to the Committee on the Professorate.

A communication was received from Mr. W. M. Jones, who contemplates uniting himself with the Theological Seminary, asking a dispensation in his favor of the time which he has already spent in theological study.

#### ARTICLE IV.

##### *Board of Corporation.*

The following report of the Board of Direction of the Corporation was received, accompanied with the Treasurer's Report, the Annual Digest, a list of the subscriptions unpaid to the Permanent Fund, a list of the investments by the Board of Direction, and accounts current of said Board with the Board of Education and the Widows' Fund, together with a list of the endowed scholarships, and of the clerical subscriptions to the Widows' Fund, and papers from Peter Spader, treasurer of Rutgers College, relative to the Knox, Van Benschoten and Professoral Funds in his hands, which were read.

So much as relates to the Widows' Fund was referred to the Committee on the Widows' Fund; so much as refers to the Board of Education, to the Committee on Education; and the residue to the Committee on the Professorate.

To the General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church:

The Board of Direction respectfully report—That they have met during the past year as often as the business entrusted to them has required, and that all their proceedings have been conducted with entire unanimity.

The treasurer's accounts, herewith submitted, will show in detail the financial condition of the Synod. All its pecuniary engagements have been promptly met, and the treasury is thus far free

from embarrassment. The board, however, in consequence of the state of the money-market, have been obliged to reduce the rate of interest upon all obligations due, from *seven* to *six* per cent. This produces a serious diminution in the Synod's revenue ; and whilst the present state of things continues, will demand a very cautious expenditure.

The different funds of the Synod are kept distinct from each other, and are herewith presented in a form in which their condition will be easily and fully understood.

All the investments on bond and mortgage, are believed to be good, and the interest upon them is punctually paid.

A few of the subscriptions to the endowment of the third Professorship in our Theological Seminary, have been paid during the past year. Most of the remaining subscriptions are considered good ; some of them, however, are worthless, and considerable arrearages of interest remain unpaid. The subscription list, as it now stands, is, according to the order of Synod, herewith reported for their inspection.

Mrs. Hornbeck, late of Walkill, Orange Co., deceased, in her last will bequeathed "to the Theological Seminary at New Brunswick," four thousand dollars, and also, portions of her residuary estate to "the Synod's Board of Missions," and "Domestic Missions." These, with other devises for charitable uses, the executor of the will of Mrs. Hornbeck declines to pay, because of their indefiniteness, and for other reasons, and he has exhibited his bill before the chancellor, for relief in the premises. Your board have filed an answer on behalf of the Synod, and employed counsel to maintain their rights : your approval of this measure will be proper, as it involves some expenditure of money, not expressly directed, but from which the board could not refrain without a dereliction of duty to the interests of the Synod.

The Consistory of the German Evangelical Mission Church in the City of New York, are anxious to have the Constitution of the Church, and if practicable, also the Confession of Faith published

in the German language. The board are of opinion that such publication would be useful, and they ask authority of the Synod to meet the wishes of the Consistory, provided an arrangement to this effect can be made with some publisher, without pecuniary responsibility on the part of the Synod.

Application has been made for a gift of the remaining copies of Dr. Gunn's Memoir of Dr. Livingston, to the Synod's Sabbath School Board, for the use of the schools under its care. Believing that such application of the work will diffuse a knowledge of the history of the church, your board suggest that discretionary power be given them to meet the request made on behalf of the Sabbath School Board, to such extent as they shall deem useful.

Application has also been made to the board for the lease of a lot to the trustees of Rutgers College, as authorized by the Synod in September, 1841.

A committee has been appointed, who, with a like committee, on the part of the trustees, are charged with determining the precise location of the lot, with the view of complying with such application.

In adverting to the state of the Widows' Fund, your board feel mortification and disappointment. The annual collections in the churches, on its behalf, directed by Synod, have been almost entirely omitted. Comparatively few of the ministers of the church are subscribers to it: Classes, ministers and churches, all appear to neglect it, and now, when it ought to have, and might have reached fifty thousand dollars, it scarcely reaches ten thousand, the minimum amount necessary to render it at all available to any subscriber. Our confidence in the principles upon which this fund has been established, and in the great and benevolent results it is capable of being the means of producing, provided only it is increased and administered according to its plan and constitution, is unshaken. But if it shall be left, as heretofore it has been left, to languish, by those whom it is designed to benefit, it will accomplish very little indeed: so little as scarcely to deserve being perpetuated.



The Richard Cadmus Scholarship is now completed by the accumulation of interest thereon, which has been retained by Synod for that purpose.

Mr. Abraham Van Nest, the President of the Board, has been appointed to give the Synod any further information that may be required.

All which is respectfully submitted,

ABM. VAN NEST, *President.*

JOHN KNOX,

THEO. FRELINGHUYSEN, } *Directors.*

W. B. CROSBY,

ISAAC YOUNG, *Treasurer.*

*New-York, May 31, 1844.*

## TREASURER'S ANNUAL ACCOUNT.

*The General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church,  
in account with ISAAC YOUNG, their Treasurer.*

1843		DR.		
June	1	To cash paid Rev. Dr. Cannon, one quarter's salary as professor in the Theological College, due this day,		\$393 75
	5	.. .. Peter Spader, treasurer of Rutgers College, one year's interest on Henry Rutgers' donation of \$5000 to Rutgers College, due 20th inst.		300 00
	6	.. .. John D. Keese, treasurer of the Board of Education, six months' interest on the invested scholarships, \$19,751.20, due 4th inst.	691 29	
		Three months' interest on bond for \$3700, paid off,	64 75	
		One year's interest on his note for \$300, due this day,	21 00	
			\$777 04	
		Deduct interest on \$1751.20, the Cadmus Scholarship, for accumulation, due 4th inst.	61 29	715 75
	8	.. .. Rev. John B. Steele, balance of his travelling expenses as delegate to the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church at Pittsburg, in May last,		45 00
	10	.. .. Isaac Young, treasurer, one year's salary, due this day, and disbursements for postage, &c.		256 81
	20	.. .. the door-keeper's and stationary bills for General Synod, at their session at Albany, this month,		20 45
		.. .. Rev Dr. Strong, his travelling expenses to Philadelphia, to meet the Committee from the German Synod,		9 34
		.. .. Rev. Dr. Van Vranken, one quarter's salary as professor in the Theological College, due 1st inst.		393 75
	27	.. .. Rev. Dr. M'Clelland, one quarter's salary as professor in the Theological College, due 1st inst.		437 50
		Carried forward,		\$2572 35

		DR.		\$2572 35
1843		Brought forward,		
Aug	1	To cash paid the door-keeper, for attendance on the Board of Superintendents, at New-Brunswick, 8th July last,		3 97
	25	.. .. J. Post & Co., for printing the Minutes of General Synod, paper, binding, &c.		215 96
	29	.. .. Rev. Dr. Hardenbergh, his expenses to Philadelphia, to confer with a Committee of the German Synod,		8 00
Sept	7	.. .. Rev. Dr. Cannon, one quarter's salary, as professor in the Theological College, due 1st inst.		393 75
		.. .. Rev. Dr. Van Vranken, one quarter's salary as professor in the Theological College, due 1st inst.		393 75
	16	.. .. the Reformed Dutch Church in Broome street, New-York, loaned them on their bond and mortgage,		3300 00
	29	.. .. for repairs to Rutgers College, \$12 31		
		.. .. Peter Spader, &c. dividends on ten shares of Bergen Turnpike Stock, belonging to Rutgers College, up to this day, 14 99		27 30
Oct.	4	.. .. W. R. Bogardus, his expenses in attending a meeting of a Committee of the Superintendents of the Theological College at New-Brunswick, yesterday,		1 75
	17	.. .. the delegates to the General Synod of the German Reformed Church, their travelling expenses to Winchester, Va., viz: Rev. A. M. Manu, \$43 " Abraham J. Switz, 53		96 00
Nov.	3	.. .. Rev. John C. Vandervoort, his subscription for two years to the Widows' Fund, withdrawn,		40 00
	21	.. .. Isaac Snell, for a day-book,		2 50
Dec.	5	.. .. John D. Keese, treasurer of the Board of Education, on account of six months' interest on the invested Scholarships in the Theological College, due 4th inst.		600 00
		.. .. Rev. Dr. Cannon, one quarter's salary, as professor in the Theological College, due 1st inst.		393 75
		.. .. Rev. Dr. Van Vranken, one quarter's salary as professor in the Theological College, due 1st inst.		393 75
		.. .. the Consistory of the Reformed Dutch Church at Schodack, part of collections made in that church in the years 1839 and 1841, for the Widows' Fund, and by their resolution of 25th November last, is applied to the payment of the subscription of their pastor, Rev. John Gray to said fund, for the years 1840 and 1841,		41 19
	20	.. .. Rev. Dr. M'Clelland, six months' salary as professor in the Theological College, due 1st inst.		875 00
Carried forward,				\$9359 02

		DR.		
1843		Brought forward,		\$9359 02
Dec.	22	To cash paid John D. Keese, treasurer of the Board of Education, the balance of six months' interest on the invested scholarships, due 4th inst.,		166 54
1844				
Jan.	15	.. .. the Greenwich Insurance Company, premium of insurance for \$8000 on Rutgers College, to 15th January next,		40 00
	17	.. .. Jane Hunt, administratrix, &c., of Rev. Christopher Hunt, deceased, his subscription for one year to the Widows' Fund, withdrawn,		20 00
Mar	5	.. .. Rev. Dr. Cannon, one quarter's salary as professor in the Theological College, due 1st inst.		393 75
		.. .. Rev. Dr. Van Vranken, one quarter's salary as professor in the Theological College, due 1st inst.		393 75
	28	.. .. Rev. Dr. M'Clelland, one quarter's salary as professor in the Theological College, due 1st inst.		437 50
Aprl	16	.. .. David Jacobus, loaned him on his bonds, secured by mortgages on property in the city of New-York,		3500 00
May	3	.. .. Evert A. Van Alen, treasurer of the Reformed Dutch Church at Blooming-Grove, heretofore received as a collection made in said church for the Widows' Fund by mistake, and now withdrawn by the consistory of said church,		20 00
	13	.. .. Rev. Francis M. Kip, his subscription for three years to the Widows' Fund, withdrawn,		60 00
	20	.. .. Dr. Thomas M. Strong, stated clerk of General Synod, one year's salary, due 1st June next,	\$100 00	
		postage paid by him,	1 51	101 51
	30	.. .. Peter Spader, treasurer of Rutgers College, half the salary of the librarian for one year ending the 1st April last,		50 00
		.. .. the following clergymen, their expenses in attending the meeting of the Board of Superintendents of the Theological College at New-Brunswick, viz :		
		Rev. Horace Doolittle,	\$5 00	
		" J. H. Pitcher,	9 50	
		" Jeremiah Searle,	7 00	
		" A. B. Chittenden,	13 00	
		" William Brush,	6 00	
		" C. C. Van Arsdale,	8 00	
		" John C. Vandervoort,	6 75	
		" A. H. Myers,	12 00	
		" Wm. R. Bogardus, 3 years,	5 25	
		" J. A. Van Doren, 3 years,	10 00	
		" John Garretson,	2 00	
		" Nicholas I. Marselus,	2 00	
		" William H. Campbell,	5 00	
		" Thomas M. Strong, D. D.	3 56	95 06
	31	To balance in bank this day,		4211 54
				\$18848 67

1843		CR.			
May	31	By balance brought from account rendered this day,		\$3208	41
June	5	By cash received of Peter Spader, agent, &c., the balance of interest in his hands on the Professoral Fund of the Theological College, 3d inst. \$190 95			
		Balance of principal of C. H. Van Nortwick's bond,	100 00		
		and on account of the principal of James Brown's bond, both belonging to said fund,	70 00		
				360	95
		.. .. of John D. Keese, one year's interest on his note for \$300, as treasurer of the Board of Education, due this day,		21	00
	6	.. .. of Rev. Ebenezer Wiggins, Questor of the Classis of Paramus, for Minutes of General Synod,		15	00
	7	.. .. six months' interest on bond for \$4000, due 1st inst.		140	00
		.. .. six months' interest on bond for \$2800, due 27th April last,		98	00
	15	.. .. six months' interest on bond for \$10,000, due 22d May last,		350	00
	20	.. .. for Minutes of General Synod, furnished to the Classis of Washington,		13	00
	27	.. .. of Richard K. Haight, his subscription to the permanent fund,		500	00
	29	.. .. of James Suydam, his subscription to the permanent fund,		500	00
July	20	.. .. for Minutes of General Synod, furnished to the Classis of Montgomery,		10	00
Sept.	6	.. .. for one year's interest on two bonds for \$5000 each, and one for \$4000 at 6 per cent.		840	00
		.. .. six months' interest on bond for \$12,000 at 7 per cent.		420	00
	7	.. .. of Mentz & Rovoudt, for license to publish three thousand copies of the Psalm Book,		180	00
	8	.. .. six months' interest on bond for \$3600, due 30th July last,		126	00
	21	.. .. for a dividend on 23 shares of Bergen Turnpike Stock,		8	62
	23	.. .. six months' interest on bond for \$1000, due 13th August last,		35	00
	30	.. .. six months' interest on bonds for \$8,000 at 6 per cent,		240	00
Oct.	21	.. .. six months' interest on bond for \$2800, at 6 p. ct.		84	00
Nov.	3	.. .. six months' interest on bond for \$2,000, due 23d October last,		70	00
	4	.. .. six months' interest on bond for \$8,500, due 3d October last,		297	50
		.. .. for Minutes of General Synod, sold at the office of the Christian Intelligencer, \$3 25			
		and one copy of the Memoirs of Dr. Livingston,	50		
				3	75
		Carried forward,		\$7521	23

1843		CR.	
		Brought forward,	\$7521 23
Nov.	6	By cash received, six months' interest on bonds for \$8,300, at 6 per cent.	219 00
		.. .. six months' interest on bond for \$2,500, due 26th October last,	87 50
	8	.. .. of Rev. Dr. Wyckoff, collected in the 2d Reformed Dutch Church in Albany, for the Widows' Fund,	34 44
	18	.. .. six months' interest on bond for \$10,000, due 22d inst.	350 00
	20	.. .. for Minutes of General Synod, furnished to the Classis of Schenectady,	12 50
	23	.. .. collected in the 1st Reformed Dutch Church at New-Brunswick, for the Widows' Fund,	18 52
	29	.. .. six months' interest on bond for \$2,600, due on 11th inst.	91 00
Dec.	1	.. .. six months' interest on bond for \$5000, due 1st November last,	175 00
		.. .. six months' interest on bond for \$10,000, due 22d November last,	350 00
	6	.. .. six months' interest on bond for \$4,000 at 6 per cent.	120 00
	15	.. .. of William Barricklo, on account of the balance due on his bond, belonging to the Professoral Fund,	50 00
	26	.. .. collected in the Collegiate Dutch Churches, New-York, for the Widows' Fund,	135 96
1844	Jan. 20	.. .. collected in the Reformed Dutch Church in Franklin street, New-York, for the Widows' Fund,	18 43
	22	.. .. for assignment of John B. Durgledein's bond and mortgage for \$2,600, and interest to this day,	2635 89
	25	.. .. of Rev. N. I. Marselus, Questor of the Classis of New-York, for Minutes of General Synod,	30 00
Feb.	16	.. .. six months' interest on bonds for \$8,000 at six per cent.	240 00
		.. .. six months' interest on bond for \$3,600, due 30th January last,	126 00
	20	.. .. of Collegiate Dutch Church, New-York, six months' interest on their four bonds for \$26,000,	840 00
Mar.	16	.. .. of Rev. W. H. Campbell, Questor of the Classis of Albany, for Minutes of General Synod,	45 00
	25	.. .. of Rev. M. W. Dwight, Questor of the Classis of Long Island, for Minutes of General Synod,	15 50
April	9	.. .. of Rev. Stephen H. Meeker, Questor of the South Classis of New-York, for Minutes of General Synod,	7 00
		Carried forward,	\$13152 97

		CR.		
1844		Brought forward,	\$13152	97
April	17	By cash received on account of the principal of a bond of the Reformed Dutch Church in Broome street, New-York, to General Synod, for \$3,300,		
		.. .. six months' interest on said bond for \$3,300, due 16th March last,	400	00
		.. .. six months' interest on bond for \$5,000, due 8th December last,	99	00
		.. .. six months' interest on bond for \$1,700, due 10th January last,	300	00
		.. .. six months' interest on bond for \$1000, due 13th February last,	119	00
	30	.. .. of Rev. G. C. Schanck, Questor of the Classis of Passaic, for Minutes of General Synod,	30	00
May	2	.. .. six months' interest on bond for \$5,000, at six per cent. interest,	4	75
	3	.. .. six months' interest on bonds for \$8,300, at six per cent.	150	00
	4	.. .. six months' interest on bond for \$2,500, at six per cent.	249	00
	6	.. .. on account of interest on bond for \$8,500, due 3d April last,	75	00
	7	.. .. of Rev. A. H. Warner, Questor of the Classis of Bergen, for Minutes of General Synod,	100	00
		.. .. six months' interest on bond for \$2,000, due 23d April last,	13	25
		.. .. of Peter Van Zandt, in full payment of his bond for \$1200, and interest to this day,	70	00
	11	.. .. of Peter Van Zandt, on account of his bond for \$6,600,	1224	59
		Interest thereon, to this day,	\$800	00
			20	92
	13	.. .. six months' interest on bond for \$2,800, at six per cent.	820	92
		.. .. of Rev. John L. Zabriskie, Questor of the Classis of New-Brunswick, for Minutes of General Synod,	84	00
	20	.. .. for Minutes of General Synod furnished to the Classis of Philadelphia,	17	50
	22	.. .. six months' interest on bond for \$10,000, due this day,	7	50
		.. .. of Rev. Dr. Wyckoff, the balance of a collection made in the 2d Reformed Dutch Church of Albany, for the Widows' Fund,	350	00
	29	.. .. of Rev. William S. Heyer, Questor of the Classis of Poughkeepsie, for Minutes of General Synod,	20	00
		.. .. for interest on their subscriptions to the Permanent Fund, due 1st May last, of	40	00
		Maria I. Kissam,	\$30	
		Stephen Van Rensselaer,	300	
		David W. Wetmore,	30	
		Carried forward,	\$17327	48

1843		CR.		
		Brought forward,	\$17327	48
May	29	By cash received of Thomas C. Doremus,	\$30	
		David L. Haight,	30	
		David H. Haight,	30	
		Richard K. Haight,	30	
		James Suydam,	30	
		John Oothout,	30	
		Catelina Oothout,	30	
		Collegiate Dutch Church, N.Y.	300	
		Cornelius Duryee,	15	
		Lefferts Lefferts,	30	
		Samuel Smith,	45	
			960	00
		.. .. of the following clergymen, their subscriptions to the Widows' Fund, viz.:		
		Rev. J. H. Van Wagenen,	\$20	
		" Benjamin C. Taylor, D.D.	20	
		" R. W. Knight,	40	
		" William S. Hoyer,	60	
		" Richard Sluyter,	60	
		" Peter I. Quick,	20	
		" R. O. Currie,	20	
		" John Gray,	41	19
		" George G. Sill,	20	
		" Wm. C. Brownlee, D. D.	40	
		" Henry A. Raymond,	20	
		" Christopher Hunt (replaced)	20	
		" Alexander H. Warner,	20	
		" David A. Jones,	20	
		" Isaac S. Demund,	20	
		" Isaac N. Wyckoff, D. D.	20	
		" Isaac Ferris, D. D.	100	
			561	19
			\$18848	67
	31	By balance carried to new account,	\$4211	54

ISAAC YOUNG,  
Treasurer.

The subscribers, appointed a committee to examine the Treasurer's Accounts, have examined the same with the vouchers exhibited by him, and find them correct, leaving a balance due to General Synod of four thousand two hundred and eleven dollars and fifty-four cents.

W. B. CROSBY,  
THEO. PRELINGHUYSEN, } Committee.

New-York, 3d June, 1844.



## ANNUAL DIGEST, 1844.

The Board of Direction submit to General Synod their Annual Digest, as follows :

## FUNDS DEVOTED TO EDUCATION PURPOSES.

*The Van Benschoten Fund.*

The amount of this fund, as reported by Peter Spader, Treasurer of Rutgers College, and which is loaned upon bonds secured by mortgages upon property in the State of New-Jersey, amounted on the 1st April, 1844, to	\$20,000 00
Balance in his hands 2nd April, 1844,	1,161 27
Interest due on same fund, 1st May, 1844,	1,258 80
There has been paid to indigent students, out of the interest of this fund, during the past year,	832 00

*Legacy of Miss Rebecca Knox.*

The amount of this fund is \$2,000 which is loaned on bond secured by mortgage, on property in the State of New-Jersey,	\$2,000 00
Interest due on this fund, 1st May, 1844,	120 00
Balance due Peter Spader, Treasurer, &c., on the 1st April, 1844,	42 89
Nothing has been paid to indigent students out of the interest of this fund during the present year.	
Amount of moneys invested by the Board of Direction, for education purposes,	\$23,700 00
Balance in the hands of Treasurer of General Synod,	183 87

## WIDOWS' FUND.

Amount of moneys invested by the Board of Direction, for the Widows' Fund,	\$8,900 00
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Balance in the hands of the Treasurer of General Synod, \$1,018 53

PERMANENT PROFESSORAL FUND.

Under this head are included all the moneys which have been collected and invested on the subscriptions for the Professorships as well as the moneys formerly in the hands of the Trustees of Rutgers College, viz :

Loaned by the Board of Direction, secured by bonds and mortgages on real estate,	\$67,200 00
Balance of the Professoral Fund, formerly in the hands of the Trustees of Rutgers College, and transferred to General Synod, as per account of Peter Spader, rendered 3rd June, 1843,	2,780 00
Twenty-three shares of Bergen Turnpike Stock, ten of which belong to Rutgers College, valued at	575 00
Notes given for subscriptions,	300 00
Rev. John F. Schermerhorn's note,	510 00

MINUTES OF GENERAL SYNOD.

There has been received for Minutes of General Synod, during the past year,	\$234 25
And there has been paid for printing Minutes, paper, &c.	215 96

ABM. VAN NEST, *President.*

JOHN KNOX,

W. B. CROSBY,

THEO. FRELINGHUYSEN,

ISAAC YOUNG, *Treasurer.*

} *Directors.*

*New-York, 31st May, 1844.*

A communication was received from the Board of Direction, recommending a certain form of a Devise to General Synod, which was referred to the Committee on the Professorate.

The Committee on Nominations having reported, Synod proceeded to the election of the Board of Direction of the Corporation. On counting the ballots, it appeared that the following were chosen: Mr. Abraham Van Nest, President; Messrs. William B. Crosby, Theodore Frelinghuysen, and Rev. John Knox, D. D., Directors; and Mr. Isaac Young, Treasurer.

#### ARTICLE V.

##### *Correspondence.*

The Rev. Charles Hodge, D. D., of the Presbyterian Church, appeared in Synod, and having produced testimonials of his appointment, took his seat as a Corresponding Delegate from the General Assembly.

The following report was received from the delegates appointed to meet the General Synod of the German Reformed Church:

To the General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church—

The undersigned, appointed as Corresponding Delegates from this body to the General Synod of the German Reformed Church, beg leave respectfully to state, that they attended the sessions of the Synod of that sister church, in the city of Winchester, Virginia, in October last, and that their reception by that body was most cordial and fraternal. That church has assumed a noble, elevated stand, among her sisters for intelligence and piety. Her feelings towards your body were evinced by the fact, that when the articles for a more perfect union between the two churches came up for consideration, they were adopted with the most gratifying unanimity, and almost by acclamation.

ABR'M J. SWITS,  
A. M. MANN.

Synod took up the plan for a closer union between the German Reformed and the Reformed Dutch Churches, which was reported to the General Synod at its last meeting.

Reports were received from the Classes on the subject of the plan for a closer union between the German Reformed and Reformed Dutch Churches, from which it appeared that the Classes of New-Brunswick, Poughkeepsie, the South Classis of Long Island, the Classes of Albany, Schenectady, Rensselaer, Schoharie, and Washington, had approved of said plan, and that the Classes of Bergen, Paramus, Ulster, Montgomery, and Orange, disapprove of said plan either in whole or in part.

The plan was considered by paragraphs, and after a full discussion, the question was taken upon the whole plan, and it was unanimously adopted. It was then

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the Committee on Nominations to report double the number of persons from whom to elect the delegates from this Synod to the Convention to be held in Harrisburgh in August next, according to the provisions of the second article of the said plan.

The Committee on Nominations having reported, Synod proceeded to the election of the delegates to the triennial Convention to be held in Harrisburgh. On counting the ballots, it appeared that the following persons were chosen, viz :—Rev. Samuel A. Van Vranken, D. D., Thomas M. Strong, D. D., John Ludlow, D. D., Samuel B. How, D. D., Isaac Ferris, D. D., John Gosman, D. D., and the Elders Abraham Van Nest, William B. Crosby, Richard V. DeWitt, Peter D. Vroom, George Zabriskie and Ephraim Smith.

*Resolved*, That the following persons be appointed delegates *secundi*, to attend the triennial Convention in the place of those who may not be able to attend, viz :—Rev. Peter Labagh, Gustavus Abeel, D. D., John Garretson, Jacob Schoonmaker, D. D., William H. Campbell, Jacob Van Vechten, D. D., and the Elders John D. Keese, John Frey, Henry Loucks, William Stephens, Geo. W. Morris, and Geo. Nevius.

*Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding twenty five dollars each man be allowed for the travelling expenses of this delegation, and that the Treasurer be and hereby is authorized to pay the same.

A communication was received from the Rev. James Romeyn, who was appointed to attend the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, giving reasons why he had not complied with his appointment, whereupon it was

*Resolved*, That his reasons for not attending the meeting of the General Assembly be sustained, and that his communication be put on file.

A communication was received from the Rev. J. F. Mesick, one of the delegates appointed by the Synod of the German Reformed Church stating reasons why he had not been able to attend the present meeting of the Synod, which was referred to the Committee on Correspondence.

The Rev. Benjamin S. Schneck, of the German Reformed Church, appeared in Synod, and having produced testimonials of his appointment, took his seat as a corresponding delegate. Twelve copies of the Minutes of the last session of the German Reformed Synod were presented by the delegate from the German Church, and laid on the table of Synod.

The Committee on Correspondence reported, and their report was adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee on Correspondence report that nothing new or special has come before them requiring the consideration of this Synod. They cannot however refrain from taking notice of the prompt and affectionate response which the brethren of the German Reformed Synod have given to the plan of a more enlarged correspondence between them and our church, submitted to them at their last session: The frank and confiding manner in which they have met the subject, is worthy the countrymen of Luther and Melancthon. Although we descend from a more cautious and calculating race than theirs, yet we trust they will find that if we are apt to be slow, we are sure, and once linked in with them in the race toward perfection our strife will be to outdo them in brotherly kindness and charity.

A letter from the Rev. John F. Mesick, of the German Reformed Church at Harrisburgh, has been referred to your committee. He sends therein his excuse for his absence as one of the Synod of the German Reformed Church of North America, and mentions that the Rev. Benjamin Schneck would probably attend, and be fully able to represent the wishes and views of his church. He also presents to the delegates who may be appointed to attend the Convention to be held in August next, a cordial invitation to Harrisburg, and assures them that the members of his congregation will take pleasure in extending to each and every one of them the rites of hospitality.

GUSTAVUS ABEEL, *Chairman.*

The Committee on Correspondence, having reported a double number of persons from whom to elect delegates to the corresponding churches, the Synod proceeded to the election, when the following were chosen :—

To the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church—Rev. John Knox, D. D. *Primarius*, and Rev. John Garretson, *Secundus*.

To the General Synod of the German Reformed Church—Rev. Isaac N. Wyckoff, D. D., and Oscar H. Gregory, *Primarii*; and the Rev. Gabriel Ludlow and John Gosman, D. D., *Secundi*.

## ARTICLE VI.

### *Synodical Reports on the State of the Churches.*

In conformity with the standing regulation, the Synod spent a part of the afternoon of the first day of the session in religious exercises.

The Committee on the State of Religion reported, and their report was adopted, and is as follows :—

The Committee on the State of Religion beg leave respectfully to report ;

From the information which has been laid before Synod, of the state of the churches during the past year, it appears that they are in a peaceful and prosperous condition. A goodly number has been gathered in from the world to the church ; the public services of the house of God on the Sabbath are well attended, as are also the social meetings for worship which are held during the week. In most, if not all of our congregations, there are Bible and catechetical classes and Sabbath schools ; and the interest in the benevolent and religious operations of the day, which has heretofore been felt in the church, appears still to continue.

Though revivals of religion have not been as numerous during the past, as in some previous years, we have yet reason for thankfulness that they have not been wholly withheld, and that to some of our churches, seasons of refreshing from the presence of the Lord have been granted. Revivals have been experienced in the following churches ; in the church at the corner of Green and Houston streets, in the city of New-York ; and at Yonkers and Tarrytown in the Classis of New-York ; at Courtlandtown, in the South Classis of New-York ; at New Shannock, Readington, and Manayunk, in the Classis of Philadelphia ; at Little Falls and Fairfield in the Classis of Passaic ; at Rhinebeck, Germantown, Greenport, Linlithgow, in the Classis of Poughkeepsie ; and at Griggstown in the Classis of New-Brunswick ; in "one church" in the Classis of Albany ; in "three churches" in the Classis of Ulster ; in "some of the churches" in the Classis of Rensselaer ; in a "few of the churches" in the Classis of Cayuga ; in "one church" in the Classis of Washington ; in the church of Helderbergh in the Classis of Schenectady ; and in "five churches" in the Classis of Orange.

During the past year new churches have been organized in the following places : in the City of Troy, in the Classis of Albany ; at Rosendale, in the Classis of Ulster ; and in a portion of Ghent, in the Classis of Rensselaer. The Church in Troy is supplied by the

Rev. Ransford Wells ; and the Church at Rosendale has been organized under favorable auspices.

The Rev. George Dubois, of the Classis of New-York ; the Rev. R. Sluyter, of the Classis of Rensselaer ; Rev. C. C. Eltinge, of the Classis of Orange ; Rev. B. B. Westfall, and Rev. David Devoe, of the Classis of Montgomery ; have all been removed by death during the past year, and we trust have entered into rest. While we cherish with grateful recollection the memory of these servants of Christ, we would hear his voice speaking to us in their deaths, calling us to renewed watchfulness, diligence and zeal ; and bidding us to work while it is day, knowing that the night cometh when no man can work.

It appears from the statistical tables sent up from the classes, that there are eight vacant churches within the bounds of the Synod of New-York, and thirty-five within the bounds of the Synod of Albany ; making together forty-three churches without settled pastors. The number of ministers without pastoral charges who have been reported as belonging to the classes is fifty-three. Of these, however, some are laboring as missionaries among the heathen ; some as stated supplies to particular congregations, and some are connected, as professors, with colleges.

Though in some respects the missionary efforts of our church have not been as successful as could be wished, yet on the whole their success has been gratifying and encouraging. In the western and south-western sections of our country, the prospect of extension and usefulness to our church is such as should prompt to the most energetic exertions. " The Classis of Michigan has been organized, and reports that members are increasing ; attendance improving ; the brethren are encouraged, and the prospects of the church within their bounds are brightening as rapidly as could be expected." " In the Classis of Illinois there are now six churches and four ministers, who, besides supplying the churches where they are located, labour as missionaries, more or less, in places destitute of religious privileges."



Though the foreign missionary operations of the church have been attended with unexpected difficulties and discouragements, they are not such as to give just reason for hesitation in prosecuting them. It is not to be doubted that much good has been done by them, and that precious seed has been sown in heathen lands, that will hereafter spring up, we trust, and produce a rich increase of righteousness. In this life God calls us to the exercise of faith, and that too in our attempts to do good and to extend his gospel, as well as in the common walks of life. To perform duty is our part: to give success belongs to him; and it is our wisdom, and will secure our peace, to go forward unfalteringly in the path of duty, whatever darkness may hang over it, leaving to the Lord to determine the measure of success which he will grant to our endeavors. The promise that the heathen shall be given to Christ will certainly be fulfilled, and that church and those servants of his are truly blessed who shall be most instrumental in effecting the universal spread of the gospel over the earth. If with fervent prayer and humble reliance on his aid, we persevere in the good work we have begun, we doubt not that the scene will ere long begin to brighten, and they who have sown in tears, shall reap with joy.

It is matter for sincere congratulation that a closer connexion has been formed between the German Reformed Church in our country and our own, by an agreement between the Synods of the two churches, to appoint triennially, a convention, to consist of delegates from each, to deliberate and advise what measures, with the Divine blessing, will best promote the interests of religion both at home and abroad. Throughout the whole of our western and southern states great numbers of Protestant Germans and their descendants are scattered, and for want of a supply of German Protestant preachers, are in a state of lamentable spiritual destitution. In several places Roman Catholic priests have succeeded in gaining many of them over to the delusions of popery, simply because there were no protestant ministers among them to retain them in the faith of their fathers. Our brethren of the German Reformed Church have long

lamented that they were unable, through a want of ministers, to supply these destitute settlements with pastors : and as our church is well supplied with ministers, it is hoped that without injuring ourselves, we, out of our abundance, may supply their wants. The doctrinal articles, catechisms, and form of government of their church, are the same as our own, and it is hoped that by the arrangements which have now been made, the spirit and prosperity of both churches will be increased.

In conclusion we remark, that the present state both of the church and of the world is such as to require of us renewed diligence and fidelity in the service of our Lord Jesus. Mighty energies are at work for the promotion of evil. We are called to contend not only with the irreligion, profanity, and worldliness that have at all times prevailed, but especially with the efforts of the man of sin, whose emissaries are spread over our whole land, and who appears to have formed the deliberate plan of bringing us into subjection to his hateful power. His measures are such, and have been so openly conducted, as to draw to them the attention of all observant men, and to awaken in the minds of some the most alarming apprehensions of their success. But we need fear nothing while Christ is with us. Let us beware that we awaken not his displeasure by our lukewarmness in his service, and indifference to his cause. The effort to spread destructive errors should excite us to a more devoted attachment to the precious truths of God's holy word, and to determined endeavors to preserve them pure ; to more fervent prayer, and to greater consecratedness to the service of our Master. Thus shall we receive his blessing while we dwell in this world of conflict and labor, and at death we shall be removed to that blessed world where error, sin, and toil, are wholly unknown.

SAMUEL B. HOW, *Chairman.*

## CLASSIS OF NEW YORK.

Ministres without charge - Rev. P. Milledoler, D. D., C. C. Vermonte, G. Bourne, J. Mulligan, J. S. Ebaugh, James Buckham, and  
Wm. Boyce.  
\*Report of last year.

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SOUTH CLASSIS OF NEW YORK.

## CLASSIS OF NEW-BRUNSWICK.

Ministers without charge—J. S. Mabon, J. I. Shultz, J. T. B. Beckman, J. V. Morris, S. Ostrander, P. Stryker, J. C. Van Liew,  
Prof. Froedlin, H. B. Stryker.

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CLASSIS OF BERGEN.

Minister without charge—REV. F. C. W. HARRISON.

## CLASSIS OF PASSAIC.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	Communicants.					Bapt. C. & B. C.				S. Schools.		Post Office Ad- dresses.
		Number of Fam- ilies.	Total of the Con- gregation.	In communion per last report.	Total in Com- munion.	Number of Cal- cismen.	Number in Bibl- ical Instruction.	Number of Cal- cismen.	Number in Bibl- ical Instruction.	Number of Cal- cismen.	Number in Bibl- ical Instruction.	Number of Cal- cismen.	
Pompton,	H. Doobittle,	170	980	145	155	29	25	67	25	4	185	4	Pompton, N. Jersey.
Pompton Plains,	G. C. Schanck,	170	936	151	155	16	30	10	10	4	100	4	Pompton Plains, "
Fairfield,	J. Wilson, S. C.	100	500	134	157	24	8	30	10	4	150	4	Caldwell, Essex Co.
Montville,	J. L. Janeway,	129	800	118	14	14	50	50	50	4	151	100	Montville, Sussex Co.
Wyckoff,	W. I. Thompson,	110	670	61	61	11	15	15	15	1	25	1	Paterson, N. J.
Ponds,	J. A. Start,	90	550	45	29	5	49	49	49	2	180	2	Paterson, N. J.
Prattown,	E. S. Hammond,	53	300	50	56	12	2	36	25	1	45	1	
Stonehouse Plains,	Variant,	30	100	32	50	3	3	12	25	1	45	1	
Little Falls,													

Minister without charge—Rev. Z. H. Kuyper.

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CLASSIS OF PARAMUS.

Ministers without charge—J. J. Chrysis, P. M. Brett, laboring in the Island of St. Thomas, W. I.



## SOUTH CLASSIS OF LONG-ISLAND:

Ministers without charge—Isaac P. Labagh and Richard D. Van Kleet.

**NORTH CLASSIS OF LONG-ISLAND.**

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**Minister without charge—Rev. Thos. B. Gregory.**

Ministers without charge—John Ludlow, D. D., Amiel Babbitt and T. A. Amerman; Lieutenants, R. Clark.

**CLASSIS OF POUGHKEEPSIE.**

**JUNE, 1844.**

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**Ministers without charge—Rev. F. B. Thompson, Missionary to Borneo, and Rev. John W. Ward.**



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CLASSIS OF ALBANY.



# CLASSIS OF RENSSELAER.

[illegible]

**Ministers without charge—Rev. J. Sickles, Henry Heermance, John S. Himrod, S. S. to Presb. Church, Hillsdale.**



## CLASSIS OF SCHOHARIE:

Ministers without charge.—Rev. James E. Quaw, Paul Weldman, Cornelius Bogardus, Elihu Doty, Missionary to Borneo.





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CLASSIS OF ORANGE.

Ministers without charge—Rev. Wm. Cruickshank, J. H. Bevier, Wm. Youngblood, Missionary to Borneo.

CLASSIS OF GREENE.

# CLASSIS OF CAYUGA.

[illegible]

## CLASSIS OF WASHINGTON.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS	Communicants.				
		Census.	Rec'd	Suspended.	Died.	Total in Commu- nion.
Tiroleck,	Vacant,	89	1	-	1	89
Easton,	E. Newton, S. S.	65	2	3	1	64
Fort Miller,	J. Wood,	89	82	5	2	105
Jackson,	J. H. Picher, S.	55	38	3	2	87
Northumberland,	H. Slawson,	55	4	1	1	121
Saratoga,	Vacant.	-	-	-	-	106
Schaghticoke,	J. H. Acherson,	55	30	6	1	60
Union Village,	Henry Morris,	90	12	9	1	108
Waterford,	John Whitbeck,	55	17	5	2	109
Wynantskill,	Jacob Lansing,	55	17	5	2	102
Gansevoort,	Vacant,	5	-	-	-	45
						1
						15
						30
						70
						2
						100
						70
						25
						1
						40
						35
						Waterford.
						105
						Wynantskill.
						105
						Gansevoort.

Ministers without charge—Rev. H. M. Boyd, J. J. Quick, J. Birtby, D. A. Jones, J. H. Picher, S. C., Harrison Hyernance.

CLASSIS OF MICHIGAN.

S. Schools	Number of Schools	Total Number of Scholars.	Average Number of Scholars.	Post Office Addresses.
Grand Rapids,	15	40	26	Grand Rapids.
Centreville,		20	1	Centreville.
Ridgeway,		27	2	Ridgeway.
Constantine,		1	1	Constantine.
Allegan,		19	2	
A. B. Taylor,				
Vacant,				
John De Witt, S. C.				
Am Benzel,				
Vacant,				

Minister without charge—Rev. John G. Tarbell



# SUMMARY VIEW OF THE REFORMED PROTESTANT DUTCH CHURCH, FOR 1844.

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CLASSES.	Churches.	Ministers.	Candidates.	Students.	Number of Families.	Total of Congregations.	Received.		Total of Communicants.	Baptized.		Number of Catechumens.	Number in Biblical Instruction.	Number of Sabbath Schools.	Number of Scholars.	STATED CLERKS.
							On Conference.	On Certification.		Infants.	Adults.					
New-York,	21	26			1491	5991	200	214	3347	221	20	557	236	20	2034	Rev. N. I. Marselus.
South Classis of New-York,	7	7			660	3760	80	94	1251	92	15	255	180	4	705	" S. H. Meeker.
New-Brunswick,	17	26			1376	6770	211	105	2178	206	45	574	525	31	827	" A. A. Marselus.
Bergen,	10	9			1129	5297	70	70	1379	101	6	63	205	12	900	" J. Garretson.
Passaic,	9	8			908	5144	114	16	766	125	13	295	110	20	756	" J. Wilson.
Paramus,	13	13			1361	6394	83	39	1602	139	31	307	82	8	408	" C. S. Hageman.
South Classis of Long-Island,	10	10			768	3330	88	60	836	107	10	360	251	14	834	" R. Ormiston Currie.
North Classis of Long-Island,	7	7			603	2704	38	26	682	64	3	244	109	10	617	" G. J. Garretson.
Philadelphia,	13	13	1		1230	6295	173	23	2258	120	29	480	320	36	2276	" J. R. Talmage.
Poughkeepsie,	14	14			1042	4156	266	28	1948	108	56	167	144	10	703	" F. M. Kip.
Illinois,	7	5			123	528	6	10	81	7		50	43	6	228	" G. G. Sill.
Albany,	16	13			1654	8512	167	75	2386	161	28	452	220	14	976	" I. N. Wyckoff, D.D.
Rensselaer,	13	13			1108	3635	120	111	1556	65	19					" A. N. Kittle.
Ulster,	17	13			2089	10543	167	71	2453	241	21	365	220	29	934	" C. L. Van Dyke.
Washington,	11	14			627	2366	182	34	1010	41	79	135	260	11	537	" J. H. Pitcher.
Montgomery,	24	13			1354	6770	189	19	1819	52	36	50	140	17	725	" S. Van Vechten.
Schoharie,	11	8			303	1476	31	10	463	36	7	30	34	3	90	" A. B. Chittenden.
Schenectady,	11	15			671	3550	62	12	1290	52	3	104	140	9	450	" A. J. Swits.
Cayuga,	19	16			891	3365	118	57	1284	74	34	83	162	13	875	" A. W. Rand.
Orange,	15	18			1547	4110	209	54	1685	121	60	491	419	30	1317	" J. B. Ten Eyck.
Greene,	9	6			672	800	40	13	834	42	7			1	233	" W. Cahoon.
Michigan,	5	4			40		10	29	106	5	1					" J. De Witt.
	279	271	134		21647	95496	2624	1170	31214	2183	523	5675	3840	298	16425	

## ARTICLE VII.

*Synodical References.*

The Committee on Synodical Minutes reported, and their report was accepted, and is as follows :—

The Committee on Synodical Minutes beg leave to report—That they have reviewed the proceedings and acts recorded in the reports of the last General and Particular Synods, and that they find the following subjects claiming the attention of this body :

1st. On the Minutes of the General Synod, page 245, the appointment of a committee on the relations between the General Synod and the Trustees of Rutgers College, to report to this Synod.

2nd. On page 271, is the appointment of a committee on the Widows' Fund, to report to this Synod, consisting of the Rev. Drs. Knox and Matthews, and Rev. D. Kennedy, with the elders Abm. Van Nest and John Steward.

3rd. On the Minutes of the Particular Synod of Albany, page 7, and also on the Particular Synod of New-York, pages 31 and 32, reference of the subject of dancing, originating in the Classes of Cayuga and Poughkeepsie, is made to this Synod.

4th. On the Minutes of the Particular Synod of Albany, page 7, an expression is made of the sense of the several classes on the subject of a closer union between the R. D. Church and the German Reformed Church. On the Minutes of the Particular Synod of New-York, no expression on this subject is found.

5th. On the Minutes of the Particular Synod of Albany, page 24, a notice of an appeal by Mrs. Harriet Best from a decision of the aforesaid Synod.

6th. On the Minutes of the Particular Synod of New-York, page 15, a notice of a complaint on the part of the Classis of New-Brunswick, against the proceedings of said Synod, in the case of the Rev. J. T. B. Beekman.

7th. On the Minutes of the Particular Synod of Albany, pages 6 and 7, a reference as to whose children shall be admitted to baptism, coming through the Classis of Orange, is made to this Synod.

All which is respectfully submitted, &c.

EDWARD H. MAY,	}	<i>Committee.</i>
A. B. CHITTENDEN,		
ABM. J. SWITZ,		
AARON PUTNAM,		
H. FRAZEE.		

*Resolved*, That so much of the above report as relates to the subject of dancing be referred to a special committee, consisting of the Rev. J. C. F. Hoes, J. L. Stark, and A. Van Zandt; and the Elders, John Williamson and Henry J. Kip.

*Resolved*, That so much as relates to the appeal of Mrs. Harriet Best be referred to the Committee on Overtures and Judicial Business.

*Resolved*, That so much of the above report as relates to the complaint of the Classis of New-Brunswick against the proceedings of the Particular Synod of New-York, in the case of the appeal of the Rev. J. T. B. Beekman, be referred to the Committee on Overtures and Judicial Business.

*Resolved*, That the Classis of Orange, on the subject of the baptism of children, be referred to the action of Synod in June, 1834, p. 286, as showing the rule of Synod.

The Committee on Overtures reported, and their report was adopted, and is as follows:—

The Committee on Overtures and Judicial Business beg leave to report—

1. That the appeal taken by Mrs. Harriet Best from the decision of the Particular Synod of Albany, in her case, has been brought before this Synod, according to the provisions of the constitution in such cases, and that the documents in the case are present. Your

Committee recommend that it be taken up for adjudication in the order prescribed by the rule of General Synod.

2. That the complaint by the Classis of New-Brunswick, in relation to proceedings of the Particular Synod of New-York, has been presented before this Synod, in the manner prescribed by the Constitution, for their examination and supervision, and recommend that it be entertained by Synod.

3. In reference to a paper purporting to come from the Consistory of the Church of Cattskill, your Committee recommend the following action by Synod, viz. :

*Resolved*, That the complainant have leave to withdraw the paper, and that for the following reasons.

1. Because it is not officially signed.

2. Because it is addressed to the Classis of Greene, and does not appear to have been before that body.

3. Because it does not come through the Classis and Particular Synod, by way of reference, appeal, or complaint, which are the constitutional modes of bringing grievances before this body.

4. Because it is made up of a number of abstract questions which it proposes for investigation by this Synod, and upon which it is not the appropriate duty of this body to legislate.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN GARRETSON, *Chairman*.

## ARTICLE VIII.

### *Synodical Appeals.*

Synod proceeded to consider the appeal of Mrs. Harriet Best, from the decision of the Particular Synod of Albany, in not sustaining her complaint against a decision of the Classis of Schenectady, which had been reported by the Committee on Overtures and Judicial Business.

The President announced that the Synod was about to proceed to

the consideration of judicial business, and enjoined upon the members to regard their character as judges in the highest court of Jesus Christ known to the Constitution of the Reformed Dutch Church.

Mrs. Best having requested that her husband be permitted to act in her case, it was

*Resolved*, That Abraham Best, as the husband of the appellant, be admitted with her to prosecute her appeal.

The Rev. David Murdock and A. B. Chittenden were accredited as commissioners from the Particular Synod of Albany, to state the grounds of their decision in the case. No commissioner appeared in behalf of the Classis of Schenectady.

The appeal was considered in the following order :—

1. The sentence appealed from was read.
2. The appeal and reasons of appeal were read.
3. The documents in the case were read.
4. The appellant was heard, by her husband, Abraham Best.
5. The Particular Synod of Albany were heard by their commissioner, the Rev. A. B. Chittenden.
6. The Appellant was heard in reply.

The parties having withdrawn, the roll was called, and the opinions of the members expressed, when the following motion was made and seconded.

*Resolved*, That the appeal be sustained.

The question being taken upon this resolution, it was decided in the *negative*, unanimously.

Synod took up the complaint of the Classis of New-Brunswick, against the proceedings of the Particular Synod of New-York, in the case of trying the appeal of the Rev. J. T. B. Beekman, which had been reported by the Committee on Overtures and Judicial Business.

The President made the usual announcement that the Synod were about to proceed to the consideration of judicial business.

The Rev. James K. Campbell was recognized as a commissioner from the Classis of New-Brunswick, to prosecute their complaint.

Synod proceeded to consider the complaint in the following order.

1. The complaint was read.
2. The documents in the case were read.
3. The Classis were heard in support of their complaint by their commissioner.
4. The Particular Synod, in the absence of the commissioner appointed by them, was heard in support of the grounds of their proceedings, by the Rev. Peter Labagh, one of their members.

5. The commissioner on the part of the Classis was heard in reply.

The parties having withdrawn, the roll was called, and the opinions of the members expressed, when the following motion was made and seconded.

*Resolved*, That the complaint of the Classis of New-Brunswick be sustained, so far as the same relates to the excluding of the commissioners from said Classis, and also in denying to the delegates from said Classis the privilege of having certain exceptions taken by them entered upon the minutes of the Synod, and be not sustained on the other grounds of complaint.

The question being taken upon this resolution, it was decided in the *affirmative*.

#### ARTICLE IX.

##### *Church Government.*

Nothing occurred.

#### ARTICLE X.

##### *Doctrines and Morals.*

The committee appointed upon so much of the report of the Committee on Synodical Minutes as relates to the subject of dancing,

reported, and their report was accepted, amended, unanimously adopted, and is as follows :—

The Committee to whom was referred so much of the report of the Committee on Synodical Minutes as relates to the action of the Classes of Cayuga and Poughkeepsie, touching the subject of dancing, would report—That the increasing prevalence of this evil in the churches, demands of this Synod an expression of its opinion touching the propriety or impropriety of members of the church engaging in this amusement themselves, or permitting their children to engage in it.

Your Committee would therefore recommend the adoption of the following preamble and resolutions.

Whereas the mingling in promiscuous assemblies for the purpose of engaging in the amusement of dancing, as usually conducted, is exclusively worldly in its nature and tendency ; and, on the part of professors of religion, is calculated to dissipate seriousness—unfit the mind for devotion—to lower the dignity and spirituality of the Christian character and profession—is adverse to the growth of grace, and the abiding influences of the Holy Spirit in the churches—is calculated to conform the church to the world—to grieve and offend its members, and place a stumbling-block in the way of the conversion of sinners ; while such practise is generally regarded in the light of a dividing line between the church and the world ;—therefore,

1. *Resolved*, That this Synod regard it as inconsistent with the nature and design of the Christian profession, and ought neither to be indulged in by professors of religion, or countenanced in others.

2. *Resolved*, That it be enjoined upon pastors and consistories, with all kindness and fidelity, and by all suitable means, to discountenance the practice of this, and all similar amusements, at variance with the dignity and sobriety of Christian deportment.

Respectfully submitted,

J. C. F. HOES, *Chairman*.

## ARTICLE XI.

*Customs and Usages.*

Nothing occurred.

## ARTICLE XII.

*Schools and Christian Education.*

The fifth annual report of the General Synod's Board of the Sabbath School Union was received, read, and referred to the Committee on Education.

The following report was received from the Board of Education, which was read and referred to the Committee on Education :—

The Board of Education, of the Reformed Dutch Church, respectfully report to General Synod—That the number and condition of the Scholarships remain as last reported, viz.:—

1st, Van Rensselaer ; 2d, Rutgers ; 3d, William Paterson Van Rensselaer ; 4th, Cornell ; 5th, Wyckoff ; 6th, Heyer ; 7th, Margaret Burgess ; 8th, John Clark ; 9th, Isaac L. Kip ; 10th, James Bogart, Jr. ; 11th, Tannika Turk ; 12th, Richard Cadmus.

A communication has been received from Joseph Boies, Esq., one of the executors of the will of Moses Cowan, late of Greenwich, Washington Co., N. Y., containing a copy of said will, by which he bequeaths, (after the decease of his wife,) to his executors, in trust for the Board of Education of the Reformed Dutch Church, all the residue of his estate, after the payment of certain legacies to be paid after the estate should be settled.

In this communication, Judge Boies informs us, that it is now more than eleven years since the death of Mr. Cowan, and that the residue has accumulated to the amount of about \$1500. That the widow's means are limited, and that she is informed by legal counsel, that she, (as next of kin to the deceased,) is entitled to the interest of said residue, as long as she lives. In this opinion, Judge



Boies coincides but was unwilling to pay it over to her without an order or decree of chancery, and requested your board to submit the case to that court.

Your board, understanding that the intention of Mr. Cowan was to give to this board what he supposed would amount to about \$500, and that the residue, thus bequeathed, would unexpectedly, by the recovery of certain debts due to the estate, which were supposed to be worthless, and by other means, probably amount to upwards of \$2500, more than sufficient to endow a scholarship, passed unanimously the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That they will unite with the widow in a submission of the case to the chancellor, or if the surviving executor of the will deem the consent of this board sufficient, the board do hereby agree that the said executor shall pay over to the said widow, the interest of the said residue, from the time of the testator's death, and during her natural life, without any let, hindrance, or claim of this board ; and do hereby, for themselves and their successors, release and acquit to said executor and his representatives, all claim or demand which they may hereafter have to the said interest on said residue.

The number of youngmen now under the care of the board, and who receive aid from the funds, is eighteen ; and your board are gratified in being able to state, that every thing which they hear concerning their character and conduct, is such as they could wish.

The board have again experienced, during the last year, the anxieties connected with an exhausted, or rather, an ill-supplied treasury. Four years since, they were enabled to report on their list, the names of forty-eight young men. This year they report only eighteen received, and that they have eight applicants whom they are unable to receive, for want of the requisite funds. Some of these applicants have now been before us for nearly two years.

The following statement, made by the treasurer to the board, will show the state of the funds :—

The treasurer of the Board of Education respectfully fully reports to the board as follows, viz.—

JUNE, 1844.

347

Receipts for the year, including balance of \$3 40,				
on hand at its commencement,	-	-	-	\$2389 77
Payments during the year,	-	-	-	2191 08
				<hr/>
Balance on hand,	-	-	-	\$198 69
				<hr/>

Amount due Beneficiaries in June,	-	\$ 97 50
“ “ July,	-	220 00
		<hr/>
		\$317 50
		<hr/>

The treasurer's notes for borrowed funds, amounting to eight hundred dollars, are still unpaid, and if payment shall be required soon, it can only be made by the same process of borrowing in advance of the interest on the scholarships.

The contributions from churches will be shown by the following table.

*Classis of New-York.*

Collegiate Church,	-	-	-	\$211 06
Female Education Society of do.,	-	-	-	58 00
Church of Twenty-first street,	-	-	-	11 00
“ Fordham,	-	-	-	3 00
“ West-Farms,	-	-	-	2 63
				<hr/>
				\$285 69

*South Classis of New-York.*

South Church, Murray street,	-	-	\$ 60 20
Church in Market street,	-	-	96 99
“ Washington Square,	-	-	115 67
			<hr/>
			\$272 86

*Classis of New-Brunsw.ck.*

Church of Hillsboro',	-	-	-	-	\$21 00
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JUNE, 1844.

*Classis of Bergen.*

Church of English-neighborhood,	-	-	\$ 5 25	
" Hackensack,	-	-	12 00	
" Belleville,	-	-	5 00	
			<hr/>	\$22 25

*Classis of Passaic.*

Church of Pompton Plains,	-	-	-	\$7 37
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*Classis of Paramus*—nothing received.*Classis of Long Island.*

Church of New-Utrecht,	-	-	\$26 85	
" Newtown,	-	-	21 00	
			<hr/>	\$47 85

*Classis of Philadelphia.*

Church of Harlingen,	-	-	\$60 00	
" Blawenburgh,	-	-	16 75	
			<hr/>	\$76 75

*Classis of Poughkeepsie.*

Church of New-Hackensack,	-	-	-	\$15 00
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*Classis of Albany*—nothing received.*Classis of Schenectady.*

Church of Schenectady,	-	-	-	\$14 28
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<i>Classis of Rensselaer,</i>	}	Nothing received.
" Schoharie,		
" Montgomery,		
" Orange,		

*Classis of Ulster.*

Church of Kingston,	-	-	-	\$11 50
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JUNE, 1844.

849

*Classis of Cayuga.*

Church of Utica,	-	-	-	-	-	\$85	85
" Caroline,	-	-	-	-	-	5	68
						<hr/>	\$91 53

*Classis of Greene,*  
" *Washington,* } Nothing received.

Total,	-	-	-	-	-	<hr/>	\$866	08	<hr/>
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It will be seen by this statement that only twenty-two churches, out of two hundred and forty, have contributed any thing to the funds—and that from eight of the classes, including many large and able congregations, nothing has been received.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN D. KEESE, *Treasurer.*

*New-York, June 3, 1844.*

Respectfully submitted,

M. S. HUTTON, *Cor. Sec.*

*New-York, 4th June, 1844.*

The report of the treasurer of the Board of Education was submitted, and referred to the Committee on Education.

The Committee on Education reported, and their report was adopted, and is as follows:—

The Committee on Education, after an examination of the subjects referred to them, submit the following report.

1. On Scholarships. Twelve are completely endowed; also a bequest of the Rev. Nicholas Lansing, of \$600; and also of Maria Freeborne, of \$1000.

2. Of the Board of the Sabbath-school Union. The statements of the board are highly gratifying—indicate that it is advancing in its influence, and affords promise of extended usefulness in our

churches. The importance of early instruction in the principles of divine truth, is readily admitted, and it is consoling that it is receiving a happy direction in familiarizing the rising race with the views of truth and order contained in the standards of our church, which will lead them to an intelligent regard to those old paths in which their fathers walked and found rest to their souls.

The report of the board furnishes the pleasing intelligence that the influences of the Holy Spirit have descended on many of our schools. That some teachers and scholars have been received into our churches.

The manuscript on psalmody has been received and printed, and is now extensively used, not only in the Sabbath-schools, but also in weekly social meetings. It appears to be received with favor, and the board have made arrangements to keep it in the depository in various bindings, to facilitate its circulation.

As increasing the spiritual prosperity of the schools, the Secretary states "that Bible classes are formed, not only to impart instruction, but to prepare the pupils to become efficient teachers."

The depository is in a flourishing condition. That independent of the stereotype plates, the property amounts to \$1000.

The board, in relation to the schools in the West, state, "that owing to the bequest of the late Girard Beekman, Esq., of \$500, they have been enabled to administer to the necessities of infant settlements. During the year, ten schools have been added as auxiliaries to the board, and the number now *enrolled* is *one hundred* schools.

#### BOARD OF EDUCATION.

The report of the board states "that a communication had been received from Joseph Boies, Esq., one of the executors of the will of the *late* Moses Cowan, of Greenwich, Washington county, N.Y., containing a copy of said will, by which he bequeathed, (after the decease of his wife,) to his executors, in trust for the Board of Education of the Reformed Dutch Church, all the residue of his estate, after the payment of certain legacies, to be paid after the

estate should be settled—that eleven years have elapsed since the death of Mr. Cowan, and the residue has accumulated to \$1500—and as the widow of Mr. Cowan requires the avails of said property, and the Board of Education have suggested to the executor their willingness that the avails be appropriated to the support of the widow, this arrangement appears to your committee alike just and *equitable* to all the parties concerned.

The number of young men who have been *added* is *eighteen*, and the board states “that everything they hear concerning their character and conduct is such as they could wish.” But while thus encouraged by the conduct and progress of our beneficiaries, they state, “that the board have experienced during the last year the anxieties connected with an *exhausted*, or rather, an ill-supplied treasury.” *Four years* ago the number of young men receiving their aid was forty-eight. The present year only *eighteen* have been received. Eight applicants they have been unable to receive for want of requisite funds, and some of these applicants are of *nearly* two years standing.

This statement your committee deems necessary to present to the consideration of the Synod. It is humiliating that such a want of liberality is manifested to the education cause at any time, but especially when the providence of God seems to require that we should aim at extending ourselves as a denomination—when fields for labor are multiplying and presenting an inviting aspect. The wants of our own rapidly increasing population, as well as of foreign lands, demand a large number of devoted laborers.

The Treasurer has been, and still is in advance. It is desirable not only, but absolutely necessary, that a deeper interest be awakened to this subject. Your committee approve of the determination of the board not to increase the number of beneficiaries beyond a rational prospect of income. It perplexes the board by such pecuniary embarrassments; and delays operate unfavorably, by dispiriting the young men.

Few of our churches have contributed to the board during the past year: returns have been received only from *twenty-two* churches.

This apathy is to be lamented, as our prosperity as a church, and hope of meeting our responsibilities to God and the world lying in wickedness, depend materially on our ability to furnish the laborers in the vineyard.

The only mode in which the resources of the church for benevolent objects can be called forth, is by some systematic *plan* adopted in all our *churches*. This will furnish us with the requisite funds. As a *denomination*, there is *wealth* sufficient to sustain our operations on an extended scale; and it is to a diffusion of the spirit of love, and well-directed efforts combined, that we can cherish the *expectation*, either to maintain readily our present, or extend future operations.

Your committee recommend the adoption of the following resolutions :—

1. *Resolved*, That the Treasurer be directed to invest the bequest of Maria Freeborne, until it accumulates to a sum sufficient to endow a scholarship—which shall be called the *Freeborne Scholarship*.

2. *Resolved*, That exertions be made in all our churches to raise funds for the Board of Education to replenish its treasury, in such mode as may be deemed best adapted to the circumstances of the churches.

3. *Resolved*, That the Board of the Sabbath-school Union of the Reformed Dutch Church is one of those institutions which, by the blessing of the Head of the Church, will contribute to the increase and establishment of our churches—we rejoice in its prosperity, and commend it to their prayers and liberality.

All which is respectfully submitted.

JOHN GOSMAN,  
*Chairman Com. of Education.*

The Committee on Nominations having reported, Synod proceeded to fill the places of those in the Board of Education, whose term of service has expired. On counting the ballots, it appeared that the following were chosen, viz.—Rev. Samuel A. Van Vranken, D.D., Mancius S. Hutton, D.D., and the Elder Abraham Van Nest.

The Committee on Nominations having reported, Synod proceeded to fill the places of those in the Board of Managers of the General Synod's Sabbath-school Union, whose term of service has expired. On counting the ballots, it appeared that the following were elected, viz.—Rev. George W. Bethune, D. D., John Knox, D. D., Benjamin C. Taylor, D. D., Gustavus Abeel, D. D., Thomas E. Vermilye, D. D.; and Messrs. Martin W. Brett, John M. Keese, James D. Oliver, Charles S. Little, Thomas Jeremiah, Abraham Van Nest, and Richard V. De Witt.

The Committee appointed to prepare Bible questions for the use of Sabbath-schools and Bible-classes, submitted the following report, which was adopted :—

The undersigned, appointed by the Synod to prepare a series of questions for the use of Sunday-schools and Bible-classes, beg leave to submit a portion of the work which has been prepared. The Committee, after carefully examining the subject referred to them, conclude that to meet the whole case their proposed questions should comprise three series—one of general character, and very simple, on the historical Scriptures, for the more juvenile of our reading classes; a second, more advanced, for the next grade of Sunday scholars; a third, for Bible-classes of a higher grade, and such as come under the care of the pastor.

The committee have found the undertaking a most laborious one, especially as superadded to their other necessary avocations, and as they examined the valuable books now in use, they have been constantly led to question the necessity for the expenditure of so much labor. The first of the series spoken of has been prepared to the close of the gospel history, and is herewith submitted to Synod. It embraces 149 lessons, averaging about 65 questions each—all simple and easily answered.

In reference to the second series, the committee, after the most mature reflection and careful examination of every book within their reach, both American and foreign, used by different denominations, and after efforts of their own, do decidedly recommend that the



Union Questions by the American Sunday-school Union be adopted by the Synod as the said second series.

The third series, the committee hope to be able to present to Synod at its next meeting. In the mean time, the committee would be happy to receive from any brethren in the church, any original Bible questions of the grade referred to, and they will take pleasure in embodying them, as far as practicable, in this series.

Respectfully submitted,

ISAAC FERRIS,  
THOS. M. STRONG, } *Committee.*

*Poughkeepsie, 11th June, 1844.*

*Resolved,* That the series of questions submitted by the committee be referred to the Sabbath-school Board and the Committee of Synod which prepared them, to be published under their care, provided the same can be done without expense to the Synod.

The Committee on the work of the Rev. Samuel R. Fisher on the Heidleburgh Catechism, reported, and their report was adopted, and is as follows :—

The Committee to whom was referred the “Exercises on the Heidleburgh Catechism,” prepared by the Rev. Samuel R. Fisher, of Chambersburgh, Pa., report that they have examined the work with as much care and attention as they could find time, amidst the duties of synodical business, to bestow upon it. It contains a verbal and doctrinal explanation of the catechism. Each answer has, appended to it, a glossary, defining every important word in it, and a selection of texts from Scripture, written out in proof of the doctrines it contains. Annexed to these are exercises or questions upon the words and doctrines, as thus defined and explained.

The whole is well arranged, and your committee have not been able to detect anything in it contrary to the system of truth, as maintained in our church. The definitions are admirably adapted to the instruction of the youth, both in Bible-classes and Sabbath-schools. Many terms and phrases are used in this catechism, as

in all theological works, which require a mature and well-instructed mind to understand, and on that account it is dry and uninteresting to the young. It seems to your committee that this difficulty is surmounted by the plan of the work now before us; and that its introduction into the church will tend to disseminate and cherish among all ages a deeper interest in the truth, and lead to the more faithful study of the word of God. They would therefore propose the following resolution,

*Resolved*, That the “Exercises on the Heidleburgh Catechism, adapted to the use of Sabbath-schools and catechetical classes, by the Rev. Samuel R. Fisher,” be recommended to the churches under the care of this Synod, as a work well suited to the instruction of youth in Sabbath-schools and families.

All which is respectfully submitted,

GUSTAVUS ABEEL, *Chairman*.

### ARTICLE XIII.

#### *Rutgers College.*

The Rev. J. J. Janeway, D. D., and Wilhelmus Eltinge, D. D., were accredited as Commissioners from the Board of Trustees of Rutgers College, to lay before Synod a report adopted by said Board, and to represent the interests of the Board before the Synod.

The following report was received from the Superintendents of Rutgers College, which was referred to the Committee on the Professorate :—

To the General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church—

The Superintendents of Rutgers College respectfully present to General Synod their annual report. They have received from the President of the College the following statement of its condition and prospects, and they beg leave respectfully to invite the attention of the Synod to the communications and suggestions accompanying this statement.

To the Board of Superintendents of Rutgers College—

The President, in submitting this his annual report, has the satisfaction to state that the present condition of the college is gratifying and encouraging. A larger accession than usual has been made to our number since the last commencement, and indications are from time to time given of increased interest in behalf of the college, not only by our particular denomination, but by the community at large.

The whole number of students enrolled since my last annual report, is *ninety-one*. Of this number, nineteen graduated at the last commencement ; and the residue, who are now in *actual* attendance, are classed as follows :

Seniors,	-	-	-	23
Juniors,	-	-	-	17
Sophomores,	-	-	-	15
Freshmen,	-	-	-	15
				—
				70

*Four* members of the senior class have reported themselves as candidates for admission to the theological course in the seminary here, after they shall have been graduated in July next.\*

The librarian reports to me that an addition of “between four and five hundred volumes” has been made to the library within the last year, principally by donations from friends of the institution, and in part by a small appropriation made for that purpose by the Board of Trustees. I would call the attention of the superintendents to that part of his report which is herewith transmitted, relative to the volumes in the hands of gentlemen scattered in various parts of the country, and now no longer members of the seminary.

The committee appointed at the last meeting of the Synod “to prepare a digest of rules for the library,” in examining the former regulations on this subject, found among others, one requiring the payment of a dollar per annum from every student who used the books of the library. It cannot now be ascertained whether that rule has ever been enforced, but it is at least obsolete. I am instructed to suggest to the superintendents, the propriety of such

a provision, to be enacted by the Synod and trustees. The sum to be charged is so small as not to be burthensome to any, and it seems but reasonable that the expenses of repairs to binding, and of repurchase of worn-out volumes should be borne by those who are specially benefitted by the use and privileges of the library. A charge of this kind is made at most of the colleges and seminaries, and no reason presents itself why it should not be demanded here.

By a resolution of the Board of Trustees at their meeting in April last, the *modern languages* have been made a part of the *regular* course of instruction in the college. Heretofore the study of these languages has been left optional with the student. Experience has shown that such a plan works badly both for the pupil and the college. Attendance upon the professor under such circumstances will ever be irregular and unsatisfactory, and discipline can hardly be enforced when the delinquent is at liberty, when he pleases, to divest himself of responsibility. The importance of these languages, particularly the French and German, justifies the action of the board in giving them a place in our scheme of study, and our following in this respect the example of several of the principal colleges in the country. A small additional charge of five dollars annually, to each student, will defray the expenses of this new arrangement. At the commencement of the next collegiate year these students will be required to pay *forty-five* instead of *forty* dollars for tuition, in semi-annual instalments, as required by the college statutes. So small a charge for such important services, by a competent professor, will not be grudged by any parent or guardian who has correct notions of education, and need not excite apprehension of bad consequences, when it is recollected that our charges are still below the average expenses of most colleges.

No provision has yet been made to supply the deficiencies in our course of instruction as prescribed by the statutes. These have been heretofore presented to the superintendents, and I must again repeat that the *Evidences of Christianity*, and *Biblical Recitations*, have not been attended to during the last year.

A. BRUYN HASBROUCK, *President*.

*Rutgers College, May 24th, 1844.*

In addition to the above communication, the Board of Superintendents deem it proper to call the attention of General Synod to the following statement made by the librarian in his report to the president of the college, concerning the library. His words are these: "The librarian regrets, however, to say that many students have left the seminary, and are now ministers in different places, who have books charged against them. He has written to them and requested the return of the books, but his letters have for the greater part remained unanswered." It is the belief of the Board of Superintendents that by far too little importance has, in time past, been attached to the library of the college, and to its preservation and increase, and that in consequence of this inattention, many, and some of them very valuable books, have been lost: some it is feared irrecoverably. They would earnestly call the attention of General Synod to this subject, and would express their hope that prompt and effectual measures may be devised not only for the preservation, but for the increase of the library.

The attempt by the Board of Trustees to raise funds for the support of the president of the college, has been successful. The state of the college is believed to be sound, and its prospects encouraging: such as to give its friends confidence in its success, and to awaken them to renewed and increased exertions in its behalf.

By order,

CORNELIUS L. HARDENBERG,  
SAMUEL B. HOW,  
J. J. JANEWAY,  
JOHN KNOX,  
ABRAHAM VAN NEST.

The following report was received from P. Spader, treasurer of Rutgers College, which was referred to the Committee on the Professorate:—

To the General Synod of the Reformed Dutch Church—

The following young men have received aid from the interest arising from the Van Benschoten fund, from 1st April, 1843, to 1st April, 1844, viz :

Edwin Vedder,	.	.	.	\$90
Benj. F. Murden,	.	.	.	25
Samuel D. Scudder,	.	.	.	173
J. E. Whitehead,	.	.	.	48
S. Seeber, Jr.,	.	.	.	25
A. J. Stewart,	.	.	.	25
P. D. Van Cleef,	.	.	.	25
R. H. Steele,	.	.	.	135
J. H. Fonda,	.	.	.	30
N. Dubois,	.	.	.	88
C. Spaulding,	.	.	.	60
W. Galuska,	.	.	.	88
Wesley Taylor,	.	.	.	20
				<hr/>
				\$832 00

Amount of the tuition of the beneficiaries of the Educa-  
 Society from 1839 to 1843, as per list, which I have  
 carefully examined, and believe it to be correct, 2,480 00  


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 \$3,312 00  


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Amount of the Van Benschoten fund, April 1, 1844, \$20,000 00  
 Balance in the hands of the treasurer, - 1,161 27  
 Interest due 1st May, 1844, - - - 1,258 80  


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 Amount of the Knox fund, April 1, 1844, - - \$2,000 00  
 Balance due the treasurer, - - - 42 89  
 Interest due 1st May, 1844, - - - 120 00

Respectfully submitted,

P. SPADER, *Treas. Rutgers College.*

*New-Brunswick, June 5, 1844.*

The following report was received from the Committee appointed  
 by the last Synod, (see p. 249,) on the relations between Rutgers  
 College and the General Synod :—

The committee appointed at the last meeting of General Synod, on the relations existing between the General Synod and the Trustees of Rutgers College, beg leave to report—That they held their first meeting at New-Brunswick, at a time when the Board of Trustees of the College were in session, and had a free conference with a large committee of that body, on the subjects connected with their appointment.

At this interview, inquiry was made whether there were any other points than those mentioned in the minutes of Synod, to which they would desire your committee to attend, and were informed that there were none.

The attention of your committee has therefore been confined to the claim presented by the trustees of the college at the last meeting of General Synod, and to the reasons why the income in the hands of the treasurer of the college, arising from the Van Benschoten and Knox funds, had remained unappropriated.

With respect to the first of these, the nature of the claim will be found on the minutes of 1843, (page 245,) and is as follows :

1. For repairs to the college building for sixteen years,	\$694 43
2. Interest on the same for eight years at 6 per cent, -	333 28
3. One half of the incidental expenses, - - -	1665 78
4. Interest on the same for eight years at 6 per cent, -	799 52
<hr/>	
Making a total of - - -	\$3493 01

But by waiving the demand of interest on the ground that the bills ought to have been presented before, the claim is reduced to the sum of \$2360 21.

This claim does at first view seem remarkable, but it is easily accounted for, and the delay in presenting it arises from a cause which is rather to the praise of the trustees, as it shows how impartially they viewed the interests of the two institutions, the college and the seminary.

From the statement made to your committee, and which is corroborated by an examination of the bills placed in their hands, it appears that while all important and expensive alterations and re-

pairs made on the college edifice were charged directly to General Synod, and paid by them, there were a number of small and unimportant items of expense and repair, such as would daily and unexpectedly occur about a building like the college, which were attended to and met by the trustees, without expectation at the time of seeking any reimbursement from Synod. The trustees felt that although the edifice had become the property of Synod, they were still as deeply interested as the Synod in its being kept in good order, and were therefore anxious to do all in their power to secure this object at the smallest expense to the Synod.

They thus continued defraying these incidental expenses during these sixteen years without charging them to Synod, and had they not felt straitened by the increased demands made upon their funds, arising from their assuming the responsibility of providing for the salary of the president of the college, they would never have presented these accounts.

Such appears to be a brief history of the claim.

The next point which claimed the consideration of your committee was, since the claim has been presented, ought it to be allowed.

This question has been fully and freely discussed in view of the relations existing between the college and General Synod, and while your committee freely acknowledge that had these bills been presented year by year, they have no doubt but that Synod would have at once defrayed them, yet still in view of all the circumstances, your committee regret that the matter has been presented in the light of a claim, and are unanimously of the opinion that Synod are neither bound in law nor equity to reimburse this amount. In this conclusion your committee are strengthened by the consideration that both the precedent and the principle would be wrong and dangerous for a body like General Synod to pay expenses which they had no voice in incurring.

But while your committee have come to this conclusion in reference to this claim, they beg leave to draw the attention of Synod to the following stipulation, found in the articles of agreement made between the trustees of the college and General Synod: "And in



case the income of the college shall at any time prove inadequate to pay the salaries of the professor of languages, and mathematics, and natural philosophy, the General Synod shall make up such deficiency."

In virtue of this stipulation, and under the impression that Synod regard the college with as true interest as they do the theological seminary, your committee are of opinion that if the college find themselves unable to meet their expenses, to the amount mentioned in this claim, and which your committee understand to be the case, Synod is bound, if they have the means, without injuring the theological seminary, to advance the sum to meet this deficiency.

Your committee therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

1. *Resolved*, That General Synod cannot admit the claim made upon them by the trustees of the college, as a matter of justice or equity.

2. *Resolved*, That the treasurer of Synod, if the means be at his disposal, be authorized to pay towards the expenses of the college, for the year 1843, the sum of \$2360 21, to meet the deficiency in the income of that institution.

3. *Resolved*, That hereafter all expenditure which General Synod is expected to defray on the college building and grounds, be presented for the action of Synod annually.

As to the balance of the Van Benschoten fund which has been allowed to accumulate in the hands of the treasurer of the college, your committee have found an easy explanation. Up to the year 1839 the beneficiaries of General Synod who were pursuing their college course, were not required to pay tuition fees; but at the meeting of Synod in that year, we find (page 815) an order for the payment of tuition fees to the trustees, by all the beneficiaries, as long as the exigencies of the college need the same. And in the minutes of the following year, (1840, page 406,) the trustees of Rutgers College and the board of education are authorised to pay these tuition fees, in addition to the usual allowance made to the beneficiaries.

So far as it relates to the beneficiaries under the care of the Synod's Board of Education, your committee would state that that board, for some years, have had on their funds as many young men as they could sustain, consequently, when an additional sum of 40 dollars was required of each beneficiary, for the tuition fees, the board were unable to meet the expense from their own treasury, and being unwilling to strike off the names of any whom they had received—and finding on the minutes of General Synod of June, 1837, (page 78,) permission granted to the trustees of college, to fill any vacancy on the Van Benschoten fund, by placing thereon any beneficiary, under the care of the Board of Education, whom they might select; and also on the minutes of 1841 (page 520) the privilege of naming incumbents to the Van Benschoten fund, given to themselves—they applied to the trustees of college, requesting them to appropriate so much of that fund as was requisite to pay the tuition fees of their beneficiaries.

It seems, however, that the treasurer of the trustees did not feel himself at liberty thus to appropriate the income of that fund without a special act of General Synod, and thus has this accumulation arisen.

In view of this explanation your committee would recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

1. *Resolved*, That the treasurer of the trustees of the college be authorised to pay over, for tuition fees of the beneficiaries, all surplus funds now in his hands arising from the Van Benschoten and Knox funds.

2. *Resolved*, That the trustees of college, and the Synod's Board of Education, in the reception of young men on the education funds, provide for the payment of tuition fees; making their maximum of appropriation \$160 instead of \$120.

All which is respectfully submitted.

M. S. HUTTON, *Chairman*.

*New-York, June 4th, 1844.*

A report submitted to the board of trustees by a committee appointed by them to meet the committee of the General Synod on the relations between the trustees of Rutgers College and the General Synod, and also the treasurer's report of tuition-fees due from beneficiaries, were presented and read.

*Resolved*, That the above reports be referred to a special committee, consisting of the Rev. John Garretson, William R. Bogardus, and John B. Steele; and the Elders, Henry Loucks, and W. W. Townsend.

The committee reported, and their report was adopted, and is as follows :—

The committee to whom were referred the report of the committee appointed by the last General Synod, on the relations existing between the General Synod and the trustees of Rutgers College, and the report of the board of trustees on the same subject, beg leave to report—

1. On the claims of the board of trustees against General Synod. That the committee appointed by this body at its last session having given a full and detailed account of the matters referred to them for investigation, and that the board of trustees having done the same on their part, it will not be necessary for the information of Synod, that your committee should enter into a minute and extended statement of the case.

The committee of Synod and the board of trustees agree in the main in their views. In the history given of the claims presented, and in their reasoning upon that history, both seem to admit them to be just, yet yield, to a certain extent, the point of the legality of these claims. The board do not urge them as strictly legal, still believing them to be just, and pecuniary embarrassments constraining to seek relief at the hands of Synod, they present them. The board assert the justice of these claims. The committee seem to do the same in the history they give of the subject. And in view of the fact that Synod have promised to furnish aid to the board in another

emergency, (if it should arise,) they recommend that Synod should pay this demand, i. e. they would meet these claims, not because they are legal or equitable, but because another claim might arise, which it would be just and right to meet, and then they would apply this payment to it, as though it had actually occurred.

Now your committee believe that the facts stated in the two histories given of the subject, show that this is a case in which a compromise between the parties concerned, would be the surest way to secure a friendly adjustment of the questions before them, and at the same time maintain the honor and rights, and promote the interests of both.

Then whatever may be said in support of either the legality or the equity of these claims, or in opposition thereto, your committee presume that it will be admitted on all hands, that for the Synod to grant what the trustees ask of them, in view of their pressing necessities, would afford to them desirable relief, and thereby enable them to carry forward to attainment the important ends for which the institution under their care has been established.

Believing that the wants of the institution call for such a measure your committee would recommend the adoption of the following resolution, viz.—

*Resolved*, That the treasurer of General Synod be authorised to pay to the board of trustees the sum of fifteen hundred dollars, of moneys reported as a balance now in his hands, and that this be considered as liquidating all claims in question on the part of the board of trustees against General Synod.

In conclusion, on this branch of the subject, your committee would respectfully suggest whether both parties concerned would not do well to give closer attention to the state of accounts in which they have a mutual interest, and adopt as their motto on this subject, the proverb, "Short accounts make long friends."

2. On the subject of the balance of the interest on the Van Benschoten fund, which has accumulated in the hands of the treasurer of college, your committee cannot but regard the explanation given

by the committee as entirely satisfactory, and would therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolutions, viz.—

1. *Resolved*, That the treasurer of the board of trustees of the college be authorised to pay over, for tuition fees of the beneficiaries, so much of the surplus funds now in his hands, arising from the Van Benschoten and Knox funds, as shall be necessary for this purpose.

2. *Resolved*, That the stated clerk of Synod call the attention of the trustees of the college, and the Synod's Board of Education, in the reception of young men on the education funds, to the acts of Synod as passed on this subject in 1839, page 282, and in 1840, page 406.

All which is respectfully submitted,

JOHN GARRETSON, *Chairman*.

#### ARTICLE XIV.

##### *Professorate.*

Synod proceeded to fill the places of those in the Board of Superintendents of the Theological seminary whose term of service has expired. Nominations were received from the Classes of Ulster, New-York, Poughkeepsie, South Classis of Long-Island, and North Classis of Long-Island, which were confirmed.

It was referred to the Committee on Nominations to report double the number of persons from whom to choose members for those classes which have not nominated. The committee reported, and the election took place accordingly. The following are the persons chosen to fill the vacancies in the Board of Superintendents, viz.—Rev. James B. Hardenburgh, D. D., Jacob Schoonmaker, D. D., Thomas M. Strong, D. D., Francis M. Kip, Cornelius L. Van Dyke, John S. Himrod, and Ebenezer Wiggins.

The Committee on the Professorate reported, and their report was adopted, and is as follows:—

The Committee on the Professorate report as follows to the General Synod—

A mass of documents has been committed to them, which is formidable for its size indeed, but from that very fact is also pleasing, inasmuch as it furnishes abundant evidence of the willingness of those who have the financial concerns of the church under their care to give all the light to the General Synod which can be desired. Your committee have given to these documents all the attention of which they have been capable, and now most respectfully submit the result of their inquiries to this reverend body. The documents may be conveniently arranged in five classes.

1. The report of the Board of Direction of General Synod, and the papers connected with it. From this report we learn that the board have moved onward in their work through the last year, with unanimity, promptness and success. All the pecuniary engagements of the Synod have been met, and the treasury preserved from embarrassment. There is, however, a serious diminution in the Synod's revenue, arising from a necessary reduction of the rate of interest upon all obligations due, from 7 to 6 per cent; but the board are fully equal to the emergency; experience, circumspection, and system will surmount the difficulty. A list of investments of the moneys on hand, and mortgages believed to be good, is connected with the report, as also one of the subscriptions to the endowment of the third professorship as yet unpaid, most of them regarded by the board as good. Both of these lists have been furnished in compliance with a call of Synod in 1843. It would be superfluous to go more into details, as no doubt these important statements will be spread upon the minutes of the General Synod.

The board have experienced difficulty in relation to some bequests to the General Synod, by a Mrs. Hornbeck. The executor declines to pay them, partly because of the indefiniteness of the language in which they are clothed, and partly for other reasons not stated. The matter has been thrown into the court of chancery for adjudication, and the board have felt themselves compelled by a sense of duty to endeavour to maintain their rights. An expenditure of money will be

necessary, and they look for an approval of their course by this body. Your committee would recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That this General Synod approve the course pursued by the board in the premises, and give them discretionary power in relation to the moneys needed for bringing the affair to a happy termination.

In order to prevent, if possible, similar difficulties in the future, the board have suggested that a form of devise, sound and definite, should be prepared. One has been offered to your committee, drawn up by two gentlemen learned in the law, in words following :

“I give unto the General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church,                      dollars, to be applied to the support and education of pious indigent young men, preparing for the gospel ministry in said church, (or, *for the maintenance and support of the Theological Seminary of said church,*) and they are to invest the principal, and apply the income to the said purpose.”

If the devise should be for the benefit of any of the other benevolent operations of the church, the following phraseology should be used : “I give unto the General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church,                      dollars, to be applied for the maintenance and support of the foreign missions of said church ;” or, “for the maintenance and support of the domestic missionary operations of said church ;” or, “for the use of the Sabbath-school union of said church ;”—according as the testator may select either of the above objects.

Your committee respectfully recommend the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That the above form be printed on the cover of the minutes of General Synod, and inserted in the *Christian Intelligencer*.

The board are desirous of aiding the Consistory of the German Evangelical Mission Church in the city of New-York, to have the Constitution of the church, and if practicable, also the Confession of Faith, published in the German language. They deem this a highly useful measure, and request authority from the Synod to

meet the wishes of the consistory. Your committee recommend the adoption of the following :

*Resolved*, That the request be cheerfully granted, provided the measure can be effected without imposing any pecuniary responsibility upon the Synod.

The board suggest that discretionary power be given them to make a donation of the remaining copies of Dr. Gunn's life of Dr. Livingston, to the Synod's Sabbath-school Board for the use of the schools under its care. Your committee believing with them that such donation will diffuse a knowledge of the history of the church, recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That the board be empowered to act in the matter as they deem most expedient.

The annual digest shows clearly the condition of the funds invested. The Van Benschoten fund, the amount of which is as heretofore reported, is believed to be safely invested, and a list of the investments has been, according to a call made by General Synod at its last meeting, transmitted. The sum of \$832 has been paid by the treasurer out of the income of this fund, through the past year, in aid of young men preparing for the holy ministry. A balance of \$1161 27 remains in his hands. The amount of interest due May 1, 1844, was \$1258 80, but upon this we make no remark, inasmuch as it seems to fall within the province of a committee appointed by General Synod for a very special purpose. An account of the Knox fund, and its investment, has also been furnished by the treasurer of Rutgers College ; likewise an account of principal and interest received on the professoral fund in his hands, with a list of investments. Nothing seems necessary to be said further, as these statements will form a part of the minutes of this Synod. We cannot, however, avoid expressing our gratification that the call of Synod has been so heartily responded to. The church of our fathers cannot but go forward prosperously under her glorious Head, while she keeps in view her simple but highly expressive motto, Union creates strength.



*2. The report of the Board of Superintendents of Rutgers College.*

This report is mainly composed of a statement made by the president of the institution. The condition of the college is represented as prosperous, and as exciting greater interest on the part of the community. A larger number than usual of students has been admitted, and the library of the college has been materially enlarged. Your committee concur in the sentiments expressed in the report relating to the preservation and increase of the college library; for what is a literary or theological institution without a library, or in the possession of a scanty and defective one? But in the view of your committee there seems to be no necessity for legislating further in regard to this matter. The committee appointed at the last meeting of General Synod are competent to do all that is required. Let them revive the rules which have become obsolete, add others which are needful, and let these rules be rigidly and impartially enforced by the librarian, sustained by the faculties of both institutions, and no doubt the desired results will be gradually attained. Energy, system, and perseverance will herein, as in all other desirable objects, triumph over all obstacles.

Your committee learn from the report, that by a resolution of the board of trustees in April last, the modern languages have been made a part of the regular course of college instruction. The reasons for it undoubtedly possess great weight. It is all-important that Rutgers College should stand as nearly as may be in the front rank as to the advantages afforded to her students. In this way only can she be expected to retain her hold on the confidence of the community, and to compete successfully with her sister institutions in her course of usefulness. And if any course of study be left merely optional with the student in college, we know what the result in the vast majority of cases will be, mortification on the part of the instructor, and ignorance on the part of the student. The additional charge is so small compared with the advantages likely to result from the attainment of the languages contemplated, the German, &c., that it appears to us no parent can hesitate to subject himself to it. It will be only an increase of five dollars.

A resolution was passed by the General Synod of 1843, solemnly and affectionately requesting the Professor of Biblical Literature in the theological seminary, to give instruction in the Evidences of Christianity in Rutgers College. Your committee regret to find from the report of the Board of Superintendents that no instruction of this kind has been given through the past year. A communication has been put in our hands declaring the unwillingness of the professor to accede to the request of Synod, and stating his reasons at considerable length. This satisfactorily accounts for the omission. Your committee feel disposed to give all due weight to his suggestions and reasons, but are at the same time of opinion that he has put such construction upon the resolution of Synod as it ought not to bear. It contains not an injunction, but a request, and that couched in very respectful language. Without any further remarks your committee recommend the following for adoption :

*Resolved*, That the resolution alluded to above be and hereby is rescinded.

But now the case appears plain, that such a course of instruction can by no means be dispensed with. It belongs to the regular prescribed course of a college, which from the relation she sustains to the highest judicatory of our church, besides other reasons, feels herself specially obligated to impart religious as well as literary instruction to her pupils. It is necessary that some one should give his attention to it. Your committee recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That the Professor of Didactic Theology in the Theological Seminary be respectfully requested to give instruction in the Evidences of Christianity to the students of Rutgers College, and to attend to the Biblical recitations of that institution, and that the stated clerk of Synod communicate the request to the professor, provided he be relieved from communicating instruction in moral philosophy.

Your committee cannot conclude their review of this document without congratulating the General Synod on the prosperous condition of Rutgers College as exhibited in the annual report of those who so faithfully and untiringly watch over her interests.

3. *The report of the Board of Superintendents of the Theological Seminary.*—From this document it appears that the institution continues to thrive, and to send forth into the harvest, laborers who, with the blessing of the great Lord thereof, will we trust, be made instrumental in gathering in much spiritual increase. The deportment of the great body of the theological students is exemplary and useful. But in every thing earthly, though embraced in the church of Jesus Christ itself, there is always some abatement. Sickness has thinned the ranks of the pupils; and what is still worse, there is neglect and want of punctuality on the part of some, in their attendance in the lecture-rooms. The board have passed several resolutions in regard to these irregularities, in order to meet the wishes of the professors. It is deemed needless to go more into particulars, as the report of the board is before the Synod, and can easily be referred to. Let it suffice to say, that in the opinion of the committee the resolutions of the board ought to be sanctioned fully by the General Synod, and that they and the professors, to whom a measure of discretionary power has been necessarily and wisely given, be sustained in their efforts to enforce the discipline of the seminary.

The board last year suggested to Synod the propriety of holding a theological commencement at the close of the theological year. This suggestion was concurred in by the committee on the professorate, and brought before the Synod in their report, and a resolution was recommended and adopted as follows: (All the particulars may be seen on the Minutes of 1843, page 247.)

*“Resolved, That the Board of Superintendents of the Theological Seminary make the necessary arrangements for the proposed theological commencement.”*

A paper has been put into the hands of your committee, signed by the clerk of the theological faculty, embracing a memorial from the students, expressing a wish that the subject be reconsidered. Your committee feel like treating with the greatest respect a communication issuing from such a source. The reasons adduced are certainly not without some force, but there are other reasons which we think ought to preponderate. The Synod have already fully

legislated on the subject, and there ought to be very powerful considerations indeed proposed to justify them in receding from their purpose. Fluctuating legislation cannot but tend to lessen the dignity and influence of any public body from which it proceeds. It is to be hoped it may be kept out of the church, however much it may prevail in other quarters. How shall we else retain the respect and confidence of our people? Your committee can see no serious evil as the probable result of the plan, judiciously arranged and carried into effect. All need not be speakers. The compositions need not exceed ten or fifteen minutes. They of course will be of a strictly theological character. There need be no parade, nothing which savors of the spirit of the world. We suppose the object simply to be to excite an interest in the community in behalf of the seminary, and to strengthen their confidence in it by exhibiting from time to time, some ripe, substantial, pleasant fruits produced, under a wise, faithful, and diligent cultivation on the part of those who have entrusted to them the supervision of its concerns. It may, moreover, prove a wholesome stimulus to this band of interesting youth, and surely the preparation for the exercises falls in entirely with the purposes for which they have entered the walls of the seminary, neither can it be much of an additional tax upon their time or powers, or if it be, it will be an exceeding profitable one. As to the surfeiting of the public appetite by a superabundance of such exhibitions, that must be determined by experiment. The two commencements will be held at different times, with some interval, and if the exercises be interesting and appropriate, each will probably obtain a sufficient share of the public patronage. In this respect, at any rate, the plan falls in admirably with the spirit of the day. We shall have found one expedient more for gratifying that spirit, not only in an innocent but useful manner. Under these circumstances your committee would recommend that fair trial be made of the plan. If it does not work well it is not irrevocable like the laws of the Medes and Persians, and may be abandoned, and then too there will be solid reason for a change, and the making it will be justified and approved.

Your committee have had put into their hands, a catalogue of theological books, Dutch and Latin, presented to the Synod by the Rev. Zechariah Kuypers, for the benefit of the seminary. They recommend the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the thanks of the Synod are given to the donor of the volumes, and that they be deposited in the library of the theological seminary.

4. *Dispensations*.—Isaac L. K. Miller, lately a student in the theological seminary, asks a dispensation from the remainder of his course. Your committee are aware that the General Synod are opposed to dispensations for trifling causes, as calculated, among other reasons, to produce very inconvenient and dangerous precedents. The present case seems, however, to call for indulgence on account of the very peculiar circumstances connected with it. He has spent two years in the seminary. His health has failed again and again during his course, rendering it absolutely necessary for him to suspend his course of study. He now resides in the state of Michigan, finding there a climate better suited to the state of his health. He has the testimony of a physician of high standing that the climate of New-Brunswick is not suited to his constitution, and that a return to his studies would probably prove fatal to him. His health is in some good degree restored, and he has endeavored, and still is endeavoring to supply, by private study, the deficiencies of his public course. We have a certificate of the theological faculty bearing full, explicit, and satisfactory testimony to his piety, prudence, and proficiency while in the seminary, and signifying their approval of this application. He earnestly desires to preach to perishing sinners the unsearchable riches of the grace of Christ. Your committee recommend the following:

*Resolved*, That the request of Mr. Miller be granted, and that he be permitted to apply for examination before the board of superintendents, at their meeting in July next, or the committee for the reception of students, in the fall, in order to obtain the requisite professoral certificate.

An application has been made through the president of General

Synod, by Dr. William M. Jones, for a dispensation, with a view to entering the gospel ministry. A certificate is connected with the application, from Professor White of the Union Theological Seminary in the City of New-York, informing us that he has spent about a year and little more than two months in that seminary. Your committee recommend the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That Dr. Jones be referred to the Board of Superintendents of the Theological Seminary at New-Brunswick, for examination as to his proficiency in classical and theological attainments, and that he be required to complete the term of three years, as in the case of our own students, making allowance not exceeding one year for the time spent in the Union Seminary.

5. *Beneficiaries*.—John G. Guldin is recommended by the Classis of New-York ; Calvin Case from that of Bergen ; Wm. H. Ten Eyck from that of Schenectady ; and — Sloat from that of Rensselaer ; for aid from the education funds of our church.

*Resolved*, That these gentlemen be and hereby are recommended to receive aid from these funds.

Respectfully submitted,

GABRIEL LUDLOW, *Chairman*.

#### ARTICLE XV.

##### *Students in Theology.*

Nothing occurred.

#### ARTICLE XVI.

##### *Church Visitations.*

Nothing occurred.

#### ARTICLE XVII.

##### *Prevailing Sins.*

Nothing occurred.

## ARTICLE XVIII.

*Missions.*

The twelfth annual report of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church was received and read. Accompanying the report were—a letter from H. Hill, treasurer of the A. B. C. F. M., transmitting an account of the expenditures of the missions of the Reformed Dutch Church, for the year ending June 30th, 1843 ; a letter from the Rev. Messrs. Doty, Thompson, Pohlman, and Steele, missionaries to Borneo ; and a copy of a memorial of said mission at Borneo, to the Governor-General of the Netherlands India. The report and the accompanying documents were referred to the Committee on Missions.

The report of the treasurer of the Board of Foreign Missions was submitted, which was referred to the Committee on Missions.

A form for bequests to the Boards of Missions, both foreign and domestic, was presented and referred to the Committee on the Professorate.

The thirteenth annual report of the Board of Missions of the General Synod was received, read, and referred to the Committee on Missions.

The treasurer's report of the Board of Missions of the General Synod was presented and referred to the Committee on Missions.

The Rev. R. Wells, late financial secretary of the General Synod, submitted the report of his doings until the date of his resignation, which was referred to the Committee on Missions.

The Committee on Missions reported, and their report was adopted, and is as follows :—

The Committee on Missions beg leave to submit the following report, viz. :

In the report on Home Missions there is much to cheer the members of the church, and animate in a prosecution of this department

of benevolent action with increased energy. The interest of the home field becomes with every year greater, as the wants of the great West are better understood, and the evils which threaten our civil and religious institutions, through the irreligious character of its population rising rapidly to a controlling political influence, and from the arts of Jesuitical Romanism, aided by large foreign pecuniary means, are more correctly estimated. At the present moment this field occupies a prominent place in the hearts of all evangelical denominations in our land; and they are putting forth their efforts for its cultivation. It is a pleasure to co-operate in a work which has for its object the preservation of institutions dearly bought by the labors and sacrifices of our fathers, and above all, for the maintenance of the pure gospel of Jesus Christ.

In the western department of home missions, it appears that our active laborers are increasing, and our young men are more extensively regarding the claims of Providence and the calls of their scattered brethren. It is desirable that every encouragement should be given to those who give themselves to this work. While economy is called for in the use of our limited means, the Board of Missions should take into their account the great inconveniences and sacrifices of the missionary in the West, and the high charges to which he is subjected, and bring him last under any deductions which may be required by the state of our funds. In the accomplishment of our plans for the West, the erection of convenient church edifices is indispensable; and as the new settlements cannot secure these without aid, they necessarily look to the older churches of this body,—and it is hoped they will not look in vain. Their agents are from time to time among us, and they are earnestly recommended to the benevolence of our brethren. . . . . New places offer to our board, and among them are several important central points; these should be promptly occupied by men of high intellectual and Christian character, and they should receive a support which meets the circumstances of each case. Every one is aware that the matter of expense varies much with situations, and no general rule of appropriation can be adopted. We gain nothing by



placing an ordinary man, though ardently pious, in an important situation, because he can be had cheaper. We must have mind adapted to the place, and it is not to be expected that they who may obtain situations of equal usefulness in the East, will go to the West on a penurious allowance. If it is their duty to go, it is as much the duty of the church to sustain them properly. The charity is not to be all on one side ; besides, the work they do is more the work of the church than their own.

Our Western enterprise at present, stands thus: We have the *Classis of Illinois*—embracing the churches of *Fairview*, in Fulton county ; *Brunswick*, formerly called Copperas, in Peoria county ; *Vanderveer*, in Mernard county ; and *Pekin*, in Tazewell county, Illinois ; *Caledonia*, in Racine county ; *Prairieville*, in Milwaukie county ; *Beaverdam*, in Dodge county ; and *Madison*, in Wisconsin Territory. Four churches in Illinois, and four in Wisconsin. The ministers are, A. D. Wilson, G. G. Sill, N. Dubois Williamson, John N. Schultz, and E. Slingerland. The last mentioned brother is alone in Wisconsin. By sending out two more missionaries, which should be early done, a new classis will be organized, and thus the brethren be placed in such proximity as to be a help to each other. It is hoped it will ever be the policy of our board to plant churches as nearly in the same field as practicable, and not scatter them over wide spaces.

We have also the *Classis of Michigan*—embracing six churches, viz., *Grand Rapids*, *Centreville*, *Constantine*, *Ridgway*, *Allegan*, and *Redford*. The ministers are, Asa Bennet, John De Witt, Andrew B. Taylor, John G. Tarbell.

From the whole of the field on which our missionaries labor, pleasing intelligence has been received, and such success has attended them as encourages us in going on.

In the eastern branch of our home effort, it is gratifying to find that much has been done. Appropriations have been granted during the year to thirty churches, and two missionary stations. Of these, twenty-five churches are in the state of New-York, viz., Beaverdam, Fort Miller, Buffalo, Easton, Sandbeach, Tyre, Glen-

ham, Cohoes, German Reformed, New-York—Bloomingdale (N.Y. city,) Cicero, Canastota, Wurtsborough, Mount Morris, Gorham, Cortlandtown, Ashoken, West Farms, Mohawk, German Flats, Frankfort, Second Church Berne, Unionville, Arcadia, Caroline. In New Jersey, four churches: Trenton, Fairfield, New Durham, Clintonville. In Pennsylvania, one, viz., Manayunk. The two stations spoken of, are Troy and Flushing. In addition to the above, nine churches and one missionary station had appropriations made them during the preceding year, which expired at different dates of the last year—they are nine—in Jackson, Wynantskill, Kiskatom, Clove, Gansevoort, and the station at Chatham Corners, in New-York; Little Falls, Stonehouse Plains, Middletown Village, in New Jersey; and Roxborough, in Pennsylvania.

The amount appropriated to the whole, during the year, was \$3,305.

On examining the list of appropriations, your committee are happy to see the marked evidences of prudence and judgment, as well as just regard to the interests of the church on the part of the board.

On the list of churches aided, some are found which it is hoped will soon cease to ask help; placed in rich sections of country, and old churches, the presumption is, that they should be both able to take care of themselves and contribute to the general fund. We ought not to have, and our churches should have ambition not to be, *perpetual pensioners*. Some have been already long on the list, and it is a fair subject of inquiry by the board, why they are so, and whether union may not be formed with some neighboring churches which will secure the ministrations of the sanctuary at their own expense.

It is very gratifying to observe that a number of churches, animated by a desire to become benefactors rather than beneficiaries, at an early date assume the entire support of the gospel among them, and contribute their gifts to the treasury. In looking over the list of contributing churches we find several among the liberal friends of our various benevolent enterprises who were fostered by the domestic board.

The intelligence received from the churches aided, is encouraging, manifesting in general commendable devotedness on the part of the missionaries and pastors, and a faithful and sound exhibition of divine truth, as well as due attention to the religious interests of the youth.

It is gathered from the report of the board, that not all the churches aided have reported their state. No omission of this kind should occur; and it is recommended to the board that an annual full report be insisted on from every such church, to be sent by the 1st of May.

Your committee have noticed with peculiar satisfaction the removal of the disabilities which impeded our board and disheartened the brethren who received aid from it. Our treasury has been relieved, and the churches are earnestly besought not to fall back from the position they have taken. Their liberality has made many hearts glad. What has been done has cost no sacrifice—let there be perseverance in it. Much more can be done; we have the means as a denomination, and in a work so momentous we should never allow one feeble church an occasion to complain of want of promptness in meeting appropriations. This is a matter which comes home to the ministry especially, as the consistories and churches generally look to them for a proper direction of their benevolence.

The report of the domestic board speaks of occupying new and important posts—this should be done. The appropriations necessary may be larger in the outset, but the benefits resulting are far more than an adequate compensation, as has been seen in almost every such point heretofore occupied. It is commended to the board to follow out this policy, and to the brethren throughout the church to aid them by all necessary information. Our domestic board is our standing *church-extension* committee, and we necessarily look to them to watch and improve all openings by which greater strength may be given to our branch of the church of Christ.

The whole amount raised for home missions appears to be as follows :

For the Eastern department,	-	-	\$3,305 00
For the Western department,	-	-	2,293 35
For former appropriations unpaid,	-	-	3,667 00
Balance in treasury,	-	-	251 00
			<hr/>
			\$9,516 35

In the course of the year, the board have sent one of the corresponding secretaries to visit the churches in the North and Northwest. His report shows great fidelity and judgment in the performance of his duty, in some cases peculiarly trying. His visit was attended with decided benefit to the churches, and has furnished the board with very important information for future operations.

Your committee have read with interest the report of the financial secretary. It is believed that as far as he was enabled to extend his labors an excellent impression was produced, and measures were put in train that will result in good to our benevolent operations. He has felt it his duty to resign his office and return to the pastoral work, and he carries with him the best wishes of all, for his success in the important field he now occupies, and for which he is peculiarly well fitted.

While there is so much that is gratifying in the home department, it is to be regretted that our efforts abroad are not accompanied with the same cheering circumstances. Eight years are now completed since the first band of our beloved brethren left their home and friends to go to the heathen. Fond expectations were cherished concerning their undertaking, and we looked forward with interest to the time when these representatives of our own family in Israel should be able to gladden us with some intelligence of large schools gathered to be trained for heaven, and of souls turned from dumb idols to serve the living God. Difficulties were thrown in the way in the outset, as they landed on heathen ground; untoward circumstances of very painful character have since tried their faith and patience, and at the date of the last intelligence their way was sadly impeded. It is matter of joy that under all their discouragements they have been graciously sustained, and have

faithfully availed themselves of every means of accomplishing the blessed purpose for which they have left us.

From the accounts received, it appears that brothers Youngblood and Thompson were in the midst of their chosen field. Extensive explorations were made through great personal sacrifices, and every where their work was viewed with favor. Their position for labor was fixed on, and with the blessing of the great Master, their desire to convey eternal life to the Dyaks was likely to be gratified. Should they become the honored agents in bringing many of that people into the kingdom of Christ, and introducing the humanizing and elevating institutions of the gospel among men who have been known only for moral and social degradation and barbarity of character, it would be one of the most blessed events of our day. Much is to be done in the way of preparation, and our brethren are abundantly qualified for it. . . . Brothers Doty and Pohlman have their schools around them, small indeed, but centres of growing influence; and they are industriously employed in preaching in Chinese and Malay. From the nature of the case, they can have but a limited field as Chinese missionaries, and hence the prudential committee have allowed their removal to China, if in the judgment of the mission it was deemed proper, and other interests could be well sustained.

It appears, however, that a most painful crisis has arrived, involving the continuance of all the brethren on Borneo, and at this moment they may have been constrained to abandon the ground. They seem to have been under the control of a local officer who has nothing in common with them in their desire to live godly lives and promote the gospel among the heathen. The annoyances experienced, the suspicions which have been expressed to their disadvantage, and the obstacles thrown in their way, coming upon them at a time when they flattered themselves an open door was before them, were beyond all that had occurred. A local agent at a distance from the authority which appoints and supervises, and where communications are conveyed infrequently and with difficulty, may, if so disposed, thus for a long time thwart the object of a mission, and always make the situation of a missionary very trying.

After the very strong assurance by the Minister for the Colonies, that the government regarded Borneo as our proper field, and would at once seek the removal of any impediments—after the permission kindly given by the Governor-General to Mr. Steele, to leave Batavia before his year had expired, this new difficulty fills us with surprise, and leads to the inquiry, whether, notwithstanding so much has been expended, shall not our mission be transferred to some other ground. Had the difficulties been of heathen origin, and such as are incidental to missions—had there been ground for the misapprehension of our plan and object—had our brethren pursued a course and maintained a character justly rendering them unworthy of confidence, we could find a solution which would satisfy, while it would humble us: but we are grieved beyond measure at the thought, that all is under a professedly Christian government, and that from the land of our fathers; and occurring after all means have been taken to satisfy them of our object, and they have themselves borne the fullest testimony to the excellence and purity of American missionaries. Our future course, it seems, must be governed by one circumstance yet to be ascertained. Our brethren have sent a memorial to the Governor-General, (and we are happy to see in it such decided marks of their prudence, piety, and ability,) and if this does not lead to a proper corrective, the conclusion will be forced on us, that we can expect nothing from the government, if it is not actually averse to our prosecution of the mission—and a removal will be necessary. Intelligence from the brethren has been due for some time, and it is sincerely hoped it may be favorable when it does come; if not, if no relief has been given, then it is recommended that the brethren take such measures as the circumstances of the case may demand, for the breaking up of the mission in Borneo and the transfer to some other point. This we feel is a momentous matter, and cannot be contemplated without painful feelings. It should not be made without the most careful, and patient, and prayerful deliberation. Difficulties of the most formidable kind once impeded missions now among the most prosperous—and it is hoped, as was found in their case, the darkness now resting on our mission is the immediate precursor of

a glorious day. If the event should prove otherwise, or if circumstances should not warrant any hope of change, removal alone is left us. Before this is done, it is well for the board to consider whether through some English settlement, in another part of the island, the Dyaks may not be reached, and thus our object as respects them be finally attained. But should a removal to another field be necessary, its selection must be left to the wisdom of the board. It is however suggested that special attention be given to openings in China. It is hoped that the board will bear in mind, in whatever is done, that we look forward as a church to a distinct ecclesiastical organization.

There is another aspect in which we are called to view our difficulties. The sword is man's; is not the hand God's? Has he not a controversy with us? Have we accompanied our efforts with a prayerfulness which evinces our interest in the spiritual success of our object? Have we shown that we felt, as a church, a strong desire to save the heathen? Have our motives been simple, pure, godly? Have we not been influenced by a denominational ambition to stand well before the world in these times of Christian enterprise? Have we sought the Master's glory and the good of the perishing, as our main ends? It is evident we are under the Divine chastisement. We are called to careful examination, to humiliation and to prayer. If we would succeed, the tone of our piety must be elevated, we must become a church of importunate suppliants, besieging the mercy-seat for a blessing.

It is painful to notice how small a proportion of our churches has, during the past year, given any attention to the foreign missionary enterprise. This argues unfavorably for us before God. What a tale it tells of lack of interest in the command to preach the gospel to every creature! It is time to awake—and we beseech brethren in the ministry to look at this matter with care, and exert their well-known influence, and to take away the reproach of depending on strangers to sustain our missionary brethren. The means are in the church, and every one should bear a part in carrying on the good work. . . . . To the American Board our sincere thanks are due. They have showed a very deep interest in

our brethren abroad—they are tried in common with us—they have cheerfully met our wishes, and it is a poor requital on our part to leave them to draw on other resources to meet our deficiencies.

From Dr. Abeel, in China, cheering intelligence is from time to time received. Though at best slender in health, he has been enabled, through a kind Providence, to labor with little interruption, and to extend his influence in several most interesting and novel scenes. He sends for help, firm in the conviction that a great work may be done there. His appeal is fervent to the younger brethren, and it is hoped it will be heeded.

Mr. Steele's last communication was dated at Singapore, on his way to Borneo. Rev. Mr. Nevius and wife are expected shortly in our country, to which they return in consequence of the ill health of the latter.

The amount raised for foreign missions during the year is \$8,869.

The Board of Missions have requested that their designation be altered, and that it be "The Board of Domestic Missions of General Synod." Your committee recommend that it be granted, and the name be altered accordingly.

The committee close their report with recommending the following resolutions, viz.—

*Resolved*, In view of the peculiar and trying aspect of our foreign missionary enterprise, that this Synod will set apart a season for special prayer in its behalf.

*Resolved*, That the ministers and churches be and are hereby earnestly and affectionately solicited to give immediate attention to the wants of the foreign missionary treasury, and carry out such a plan of operation as will give every one in the church an opportunity to contribute, and secure constant and enlarged benefactions.

*Resolved*, That it be and hereby is recommended to the churches, to set apart the first Monday in the next year for special prayer for the conversion of the world.

Respectfully submitted in behalf of the committee,

ISAAC FERRIS, *Chairman*.

*Poughkeepsie, 10th June, 1844.*

VOL. VI.



The annual missionary sermon was preached on the evening of the fifth day of the session, by the Rev. George H. Fisher, from 1st Kings, xvii. 9.

The Committee on Nominations having reported, Synod proceeded to fill the places of those in the Board of Domestic Missions whose term of service has expired. On counting the ballots it appeared that the following were elected, viz.—Rev. James B. Hardenburgh, D. D., Benjamin C. Taylor, D. D., Isaac S. Demund, John Garretson, Edward H. May, Mancius S. Hutton, D. D., and Messrs. Jacob Brouwer, Timothy Edwards, Walter W. Townsend, John D. Keese, Abraham Van Nest, and James Van Antwerp. Messrs. James Suydam and Rev. S. H. Meeker were elected for two years, in the place of Messrs. C. R. Suydam and H. H. Van Vliet; and Mr. John S. Woodward for one year, in the place of Mr. M. W. Woodward.

The Committee on Nominations having reported, Synod proceeded to fill the places of those in the Board of Foreign Missions whose term of service has expired. On counting the ballots, it appeared that the following were chosen, viz.—Rev. Isaac Ferris, D. D., John M. Macauley, Isaac S. Demund, and Messrs. William B. Crosby, and Walter W. Townsend.

The Committee on Nominations having reported double the number of persons from whom to elect an individual to preach the annual missionary sermon, the Synod proceeded to the election, when the Rev. Gustavus Abeel, D. D., was chosen *primarius*, and the Rev. Garrit I. Garretson *secundus*.

#### ARTICLE-XIX.

##### *Widows' Fund.*

A report was received from the special committee appointed by the last Synod to take measures to increase the Widows' Fund, which was referred to the Committee on the Widows' Fund.

The Committee on the Widows' Fund reported, and their report was adopted, and is as follows :—

The Committee on the Widows' Fund beg leave respectfully to report—That it appears from the treasurer's account, presented to General Synod, that the present amount of the fund falls short of the anticipations expressed at the last meeting of Synod, being, so far as your committee can ascertain, a little rising \$9,800. This fact your committee cannot but deeply regret, since it is feared that there are those in our church, who, in the providence of God, are now suffering privation if not distress, in consequence of the unavailability of the fund ; and we cannot but regard it as a reproach to the R. D. Church, that a single disabled minister should be found in our borders, suffering privation and want, after spending youth, manhood, vigor, health, and life in the service of the church ; or that there should be widows and children of deceased or worn-out ministers, in a destitute and suffering condition.

That the Widows' Fund has failed to meet that prompt encouragement which its importance demands, is sufficiently apparent from the slow rate at which it has accumulated. Our church could, without an exhausting effort, raise in *one* year, ten thousand dollars for any benevolent purpose, and especially for one that commends itself to the strongest and tenderest feelings of every Christian heart ; but instead of this, seven or eight years have passed since the scheme commenced, and yet the sum to render it productive has not been reached.

While Synod must deplore this state of things, yet it is matter of encouragement that there is a reasonable prospect that during the present year, the fund will attain to the productive point.

Your committee firmly believe that it is the duty of General Synod to cherish and augment this fund with all the faithfulness and diligence in its power ; and with a view to such a desired result, your committee would recommend the adoption of the following resolutions, viz.—

1. *Resolved*, That an additional article be annexed to the plan

of the Widows' Fund, by which it shall be allowed to a minister to acquire an interest in the fund, by the payment at one time, of a sum, the interest of which shall amount to \$20 per annum, and that such payment may, at the death or disability of the minister, be withdrawn, without impairing the right of benefit from the fund.

2. *Resolved*, That subscriptions of ten and five dollars annually to the fund, be received, entitling the subscriber to a proportionate benefit, according to the principles at present established : And that the principle of the first resolution be extended to payments at one time, producing an annual interest of ten or five dollars.

3. *Resolved*, That it be earnestly recommended to each minister of our church, having a pastoral charge, to take up at least one collection annually for the benefit of the fund.

4. *Resolved*, That each classis appoint an agent to visit the churches within their bounds, and present the claims of the relief fund to the churches ; and that said agents have no other remuneration for their services than the reimbursement of actual travelling expenses, and the expense of supplying their pulpits, should such agents be settled pastors.

All which is respectfully submitted,

JOSEPH WILSON, *Chairman*.

*Resolved*, That the Board of Direction of General Synod be directed to make an application to the Legislature of the state of New-York, at its next session, for an act to incorporate them as Trustees of the Fund for the relief of infirm Ministers, and the Widows and Children of deceased ministers—on the principles adopted by General Synod, and securing the permanence of these principles.

## ARTICLE XX.

*Particularia.*

**Resolved,** That the Chairman of the Committee on Missions and the Chairman of the Committee on Education be a committee to make arrangements to hold a public meeting in behalf of the benevolent operations of the Synod, on the evening of the sixth day of the session.

The committee reported, and their report was adopted, and the meeting was held accordingly.

A certain paper was presented to Synod, signed by the Elder William Schuneman, one of the members of the Synod, which was referred to the Committee on Overtures and Judicial Business.

A work entitled “*Annales Hollandiæ Zelandæque, M. Vossii,*” was presented to Synod as the gift of Henry D. Varick, Esq.; whereupon it was

**Resolved,** That the thanks of the Synod be returned to the donor for his gift, and that the book be deposited in the library of the Theological College.

**Resolved,** That the Rev. Mr. Schneck, the corresponding delegate from the German Reformed Church, be requested to address the Synod on the evening of the seventh day of the session, on the state of the German Reformed Church, in Europe and in this country.

A meeting for this purpose was held accordingly in the R. D. Church, when the Rev. Mr. Schneck delivered an address on the subject contemplated in the above resolution.

The communication containing the bequest of the Rev. Elias Van Benschoten, was read.

**Resolved,** That a committee be appointed to inquire into the expediency of presenting a respectful memorial to the President of the United States, and both houses of Congress, on the subject of ap-

pointing chaplains in the United States service, praying that in such appointments no undue prominence may in future be given to any one denomination of Christians in this country, either by appointing a large majority of the chaplains from such denomination, or by making its doctrinal standards the exclusive channel of religious instruction, or its litany the exclusive formula of worship in the public service ; or by furnishing at the public expense any book of spiritual instruction or devotion other than the Bible without note or comment.

The Rev. Messrs. A. A. Marcelus, I. Ferris, D. D., E. H. May, and the Elders George Zabriskie and John Frey, were appointed the committee contemplated in the above resolution.

The committee reported, and their report was adopted, and is as follows :—

The committee appointed to inquire into the expediency of presenting a memorial to the President and Congress of the United States, on the subject of appointing chaplains in the public service, beg leave respectfully to report—That they consider the subject referred to them of great importance, and worthy of the action of this Synod. It is one of the happy features of our national polity that we have no established form of religion, while at the same time our constitution and laws tolerate and protect every citizen in maintaining and propagating his own system of religious instruction and of worship. This state of things, your committee trust, the General Synod of the Reformed Dutch Church will be the last to disturb. We desire not to see our church seeking a closer union with the state. Nor do we desire to see a large number of our ministers bowing at the feet of government for official stations, with a view to the enlargement of our denominational influence. But while we, as a church, would ask for ourselves nothing more than toleration and protection from the government, we cannot view with indifference, nor without alarm, the fact that so large a proportion of the appointments to the offices of chaplains in the United States

naval and military service, are from one denomination of Christians. Your committee have learned with surprise that "All the chaplains of the Military Academy at West-Point, with one exception, have been from one denomination, the Episcopal. That nineteen out of the twenty-four or twenty-five chaplains at present in the naval service, are from the same denomination. That there is reason to believe the same disparity exists in the military service. That the ships of war have been furnished by the government with the Episcopal prayer-book." And that, in some instances, if not in all, these appointments are made without any regard to the denominational preferences of the great majority of those who are to be benefitted by the instruction they receive. Such is known to be the case, at present, on Governor's Island, where the majority of the men are non-Episcopal ; but are required to attend the service of the Episcopal church, and have their children instructed in the Episcopal catechism. Your committee therefore feel constrained to recommend the adoption of such measures as may lead the proper authorities to consider, whether it comports with the spirit of the constitution of these United States, to give such a bias to the religion of this nation, as the continued appointment of a large majority of the chaplains in the public service from one denomination is calculated to produce. Your committee therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That the Rev. Thomas Dewitt, D.D., I. N. Wyckoff, D. D., M. S. Hutton, D. D., Isaac Ferris, D. D., G. W. Bethune, D.D., with the Elders Wm. B. Crosby, Esq. and Thos. C. Doremus, Esq., be a committee to prepare a suitable memorial, and forward the same to the President of the United States and both houses of Congress.

All which is respectfully submitted,

A. A. MARCELUS, *Chairman.*

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to every church under the care of Synod, to take a collection on the last Sabbath in October, or as soon after as practicable, for the expenses of General Synod.

#### ARTICLE XXI.

##### *Benevolent and Religious Institutions.*

Fifty copies of the thirty-fourth annual report of the A. B. C. F. M. were received, and distributed among the members.

The Rev. Ornan Eastman, one of the secretaries of the American Tract Society, presented some statements relative to the operations of said society.

*Resolved*, That the American Tract Society be commended to the continued patronage of the churches.

*Resolved*, That the churches be requested to take up a collection in behalf of the American Colonization Society, on the fourth day of July, or on some Sabbath as near that time as practicable.

#### ARTICLE XXII.

##### *Pastoral Letter.*

Nothing occurred.

#### ARTICLE XXIII.

##### *Synodical Archives.*

Nothing occurred.

## ARTICLE XXIV.

*Accounts.*

The Committee on Accounts reported, and their report was adopted, and is as follows :—

The Committee on Accounts report—That nothing claiming their attention has come before them, excepting two bills: one, the door-keeper's, for attendance eight days, amounting to \$13; the other, for stationary, &c. amounting to \$3 75. Whole amount, \$16 75, which they recommend to be paid.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

P. I. VAN PELT, *Chairman.*

## ARTICLE XXV.

*Resumption and Close.*

*Resolved*, That the Stated Clerk publish one thousand copies of the Minutes of this Synod, duly authenticated; and that he distribute among the classes the number of copies directed by them.

Agreeably to the standing rule of the Synod, the roll was called at the close of the session, when it appeared that the following members were absent without permission, viz :—Rev. Cornelius Wyckoff and E. De Puy; and the Elders Theodore Brett and James Currie.

*Resolved, unanimously*, That the thanks of Synod be presented to the minister and consistory of the Reformed Dutch Church of this place, for the use of their church and consistory-room for holding the meetings of Synod; and also to the families who have so kindly and hospitably entertained its members.

The Minutes were read and approved.



## ARTICLE XXVI.

*Adjournment.*

Synod adjourned to meet at the city of New-Brunswick, in the First Reformed Dutch Church, on the first Wednesday in June, 1845, at two o'clock, P. M., and was closed with singing, and prayer by the President.

JACOB VAN VECHTEN, *President.*

JOHN GARRETSON, *Adssesor.*

GARRIT J. GARRETSON, }  
RANSFORD WELLS, } *Clks. pro tem.*

Official copy from the original minutes,

THOS. M. STRONG, *Stated Clerk.*





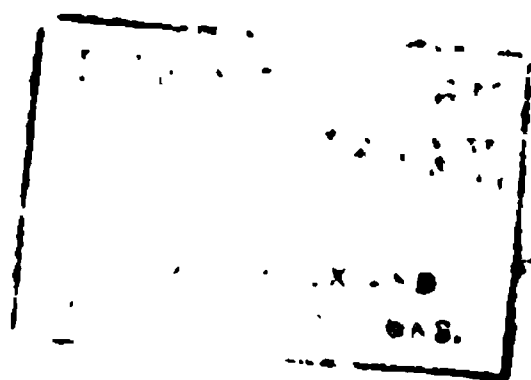
THE  
ACTS AND PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
GENERAL SYNOD  
OF THE  
Reformed Protestant Dutch Church  
IN  
NORTH AMERICA,  
AT  
NEW-BRUNSWICK, JUNE, 1845.

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NEW-YORK :

J. POST, PRINTER, 74 MAIDEN-LANE.

1845.



# ACTS AND PROCEEDINGS

*Of the General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church in North America, convened in the City of New-Brunswick, on Wednesday, the fourth day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-five. The session continued from the fourth to the eleventh day of June, inclusive.*

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## FORMATION OF SYNOD.

### ARTICLE I.

#### *Opening of Synod.*

The Synod was opened with prayer by the Rev. Jacob Van Vechten, D. D., the President of the last General Synod, who preached a sermon on the evening of the first day of the session, from John xx. 22 : "*And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said, Receive ye the Holy Ghost.*"

### ARTICLE II.

#### *Members Present.*

#### FROM THE PARTICULAR SYNOD OF NEW-YORK.

##### *1. From the Classis of New-York.*

Rev. George H. Fisher, John Lillie,\* and Thomas DeWitt, D.D.† Elders, Abraham Van Nest and William Woram.

\* Took his seat on the *second* day of the session.

† Succeeded his *secundus*, Rev. J. Lillie, on the *sixth* day of the session.

*2. From the South Classis of New-York.*

Rev. Isaac Ferris, D. D., Frederic F. Cornell, and John M. Macauley.\*

Elders, Peter Doig, Grant Dubois, and Alexander Chalmers.†

*3. From the Classis of New-Brunswick.*

Rev. A.C. Milspaugh, John Proudfit, D.D., and Harvey D. Ganse.  
Elders, Thomas Talmage, Peter Elmendorf and James Garretson.

*4. From the Classis of Bergen.*

Rev. James Scott, Cornelius Blauvelt, William J. R. Taylor.  
Elder, Joseph W. Duryea.

*5. From the Classis of Paramus.*

Rev. Cornelius E. Crispell, Peter Allen,‡ Ferdinand H. Vander-  
veer.‡

Elder, Jacob I. Blauvelt.

*6. From the South Classis of Long-Island.*

Rev. Thomas M. Strong, D. D., Maurice W. Dwight, and R. Or-  
miston Currie.||

Elders, Isaac Cortelyou, William Barkeloo and John Skillman.§

*7. From the North Classis of Long-Island.*

Rev. John H. Sheffield, Peter D. Oakey and A. Hamilton Bishop.¶  
Elders, Charles Henry and Singleton Mitchell.

\* Took his seat on the *second* day of the session, and was succeeded by the Rev. Mancius S. Hutton, D.D., the *primarius*, on the *sixth* day of the session.

† Took his seat on the *second* day of the session, and was succeeded on the *seventh* day of the session by his *secundus*, John Stewart.

‡ Took his seat on the *second* day of the session.

|| Succeeded by the Rev. S. M. Woodbridge, on the *sixth* day of the session.

§ Took his seat on the *third* day of the session.

¶ Took his seat on the *sixth* day of the session.

8. *From the Classis of Philadelphia.*

Rev. J. R. Van Arsdale and James R. Talmage.  
Elders, George Sortor and Martin Wyckoff.

9. *From the Classis of Poughkeepsie.*

Rev. Joshua Boyd\* and Herman Vedder.  
Elder, Jacob P. Miller.†

10. *From the Classis of Passaic.*

Rev. William I. Thomson, John L. Janeway,‡ Edwin Vedder.‡  
Elders, \* \* \*

11. *From the Classis of Illinois.*

Rev. \* \* \*  
Elders, \* \* \*

## FROM THE PARTICULAR SYNOD OF ALBANY.

1. *From the Classis of Albany.*

Rev. Duncan Kennedy, Staats Van Santvoord and Isaac Wyckoff, D. D.||  
Elders, Teunis Van Vechten, Jacob Lansing§ and David Burhans.‡

2. *From the Classis of Ulster.*

Rev. Cornelius Van Santvoord.  
Elders, Elijah Alliger¶ and John Field.‡

\* Obtained leave of absence on the *seventh* day of the session.

† Obtained leave of absence on the *third* day of the session.

‡ Took his seat on the *second* day of the session.

|| Took his seat on the *sixth* day of the session.

§ Obtained leave of absence on the *eighth* day of the session.

¶ Took his seat on the *second* day of the session, and obtained leave of absence on the *seventh* day of the session.



### 3. *From the Classis of Rensselaer.*

Rev. Ira C. Boice,\* Elbert S. Porter\* and Edward P. Stimpson.  
Elder, John Van Sinderen.

### 4. *From the Classis of Washington.*

Rev. Hiram Slauson, Henry Morris and John H. Pitcher.†  
Elder, Joseph Southworth.

### 5. *From the Classis of Montgomery.*

Rev. James Donald, Charles G. McLean, D. D.,‡ John M. Van  
Buren.‡  
Elders,           \*           \*           \*

### 6. *From the Classis of Schoharie.*

Rev. Ransford Wells, Lawrence H. Van Dyke and George Kerr.\*  
Elder, Storm S. Becker.§

### 7. *From the Classis of Schenectady.*

Rev. William W. Halloway, John B. Steele and Asahel B.  
Crocker.  
Elders, Abraham Truax§ and Abraham Pearse.||

### 8. *From the Classis of Cayuga.*

Rev.           \*           \*           \*  
Elders,       \*           \*           \*

\* Obtained leave of absence on the *seventh* day of the session.

† Took his seat on the *third* day of the session.

‡ Took his seat on the *second* day of the session, and obtained leave of absence on the *third* day of the session.

§ Took his seat on the *second* day of the session.

|| Took his seat on the *third* day of the session, and obtained leave of absence on the *seventh* day of the session.

9. *From the Classis of Orange.*

Rev. James B. Ten Eyck, Jacob Bookstaver and Robert Pitts.  
Elder, Ephraim Smith.

10. *From the Classis of Greene.*

Rev. William A. Cornell, William Lyle and David Murdock.\*  
Elder, John Languendyk.†

11. *From the Classis of Michigan.*

Rev. Andrew B. Taylor and Asa Bennett.  
Elders,               \*               \*               \*

The Rev. Professors Cannon, Van Vranken and McClelland were present during parts of the sessions of the Synod.

ARTICLE III.

*Moderators.*

The Rev. Maurice W. Dwight was chosen President ; the Rev. James B. Ten Eyck was chosen Adseessor ; and the Rev. Cornelius Van Santvoord and George H. Fisher were chosen Clerks, *pro tem.*

ARTICLE IV.

*Reading of the Minutes.*

The Minutes of the last ordinary session of the Synod were read.

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\* Took his seat on the *second* day of the session.

† Obtained leave of absence on the *seventh* day of the session.

**ACTS OF THE SYNOD.****ARTICLE I.***Orders and Rules.*

These were read.

**ARTICLE II.***Standing Committees.*

The following were appointed :

*On the Professorate*—Rev. Isaac Ferris, D. D., James B. Ten Eyck and Herman Vedder ; and the Elders, Abraham Van Nest and Teunis Van Vechten.

*On Synodical Minutes*—Rev. Ransford Wells, Frederick F. Cornell and E. P. Stimson ; and the Elders, Grant Dubois and Singleton Mitchell.

*On Missions*—Rev. Ira C. Boice, Asa Bennett and Cornelius Van Santvoord ; and the Elders, Peter Doig and Ephraim Smith.

*On the State of Religion*—Rev. Duncan Kennedy, Joshua Boyd and Lawrence H. Van Dyck ; and the Elders, Grant Dubois and Isaac Cortelyou.

*On Overtures and Judicial Business*—Rev. Ferdinand H. Vanderveer, A. C. Millspaugh and H. Morris ; and the Elders, Peter Z. Elmendorf and Joseph W. Duryea.

*On Accounts*—Rev. Staats Van Santvoord, John H Sheffield and J. Bookstaver ; and the Elders, John Van Sinderen and Jacob P. Miller.

*On Correspondence*—Rev. George H. Fisher, John Proudfit, D D., William W. Halloway ; and the Elders, William Woram and Jacob Lansing.

*On Education*—Rev. J. Scott, J. R. Van Arsdale and A. B. Crocker ; and the Elders, Thomas Talmage and Joseph Southworth.

*On Nominations*—Rev. R. Ormiston Currie, F. F. Cornell and J. R. Talmage ; and the Elders, Wm. Barkeloo and James Garretson.

*On the Widows' Fund*—Rev. J. B. Steele, H. Slauson and C. Blauvelt ; and the Elders, J. J. Blauvelt and J. Languendyck.

### ARTICLE III.

#### *Communications:*

A communication was received from Mr. James A. Davenport, a student in the Theological Seminary, asking for a dispensation of one year's study, which was referred to the Committee on the Professorate.

A communication was received from the students of the Theological Seminary, requesting relief from the resolution of the General Synod, requiring the holding of an annual Theological Commencement, which was referred to the Committee on the Professorate, with instructions to confer with the Theological Faculty on the subject.

A communication was received from Mr. B. F. Romaine, who was a member of the Junior Class in the Theological Seminary in the year 1842, but was obliged to withdraw in consequence of a failure of his health, requesting that he may be permitted to join the Senior Class of the year 1845, commencing in October next, which was referred to the Committee on the Professorate.

The following report was received from the Board of Superintendents of the Theological Seminary, and referred to the Committee on the Professorate :

The Committee on Synodical Reports beg leave to present the following as their report :

The Board of Superintendents met in the Theological Hall at New Brunswick on Tuesday, the 16th day of July, 1844.

The following members were present :

Rev. John Garretson,	Rev. Cor's L. Van Dyke,
" Thos. M. Strong, D. D.,	" Charles Whitehead,
" Eben'r Wiggins,	" Jeremiah Searle,
" J. Schoonmaker, D. D.,	" James Abell,
" C. C. Van Arsdale,	" John H. Pitcher,
" Francis M. Kip,	" Jas. B. Hardenbergh, D. D.,
" J. Van Vechten, D. D.,	" A. B. Chittenden,
" John S. Himrod,	" Stephen H. Meeker.
" A. H. Myers,	

The members from the Classes of Illinois, Passaic, Albany and Michigan, were absent.

The Board was organized by the election of Thomas M. Strong, D. D., President, and Rev. Francis M. Kip, Clerk, pro tem.

From the report of the Faculty we gather the following facts :—  
There have been in attendance upon the exercises of the Institution during the last year, thirty-three students.

#### SENIOR CLASS.

William A. Cornell,	John Gardner,
Wm. V. V. Mabon,	David McNeish,
Peter D. Oakey,	Charles Romont,
Wm. J. R. Taylor,	William Thompson,
Edwin Vedder,	Ashbel G. Vermilye.

#### MIDDLE CLASS.

William Bayley,	J. H. M. Knox,
J. A. Lansing,	Aaron Loyd,
Wm. A. Miller,	John Minor,
John Simonson,	Nicholas C. Smith,
Thomas C. Strong,	Goyn Talmadge,

John V. A. Talmadge,  
Jacob Voorhees,  
A. N. Wyckoff.

George Van Nest,  
Jacob West,

## JUNIOR CLASS.

Nathan Chapman,  
Jacob Dutcher,  
Sefrenus Seber,  
Abel T. Stewart,

James Compton,  
Benjamin Minden,  
Cyril Spaulding,  
Paul D. Van Cleef.

The Faculty remark that the attendance of the students upon the exercises of the institution has been regular ; their deportment has been such as to commend the Gospel they profess, and the disposition they have shown to make themselves useful in Sabbath Schools and social meetings, affords a promise that when called to the work of the ministry, they will not be wanting in zeal and efficiency in the service of the Church.

The students were examined on the various branches of study to which their attention has been directed, and exhibited throughout highly satisfactory evidence of diligence in their work. The examinations continued most of two days. The Senior Class was further examined on personal piety, and their views and motives in seeking the gospel ministry. They also exhibited specimens of sermonizing and preaching. Whereupon it was

*Resolved*, That the examination be sustained, and that the following young gentlemen, members of the Senior Class, be recommended to the professors for the usual certificate to entitle them to examination for license, before the several classes to which they belong, viz :

Wm. A. Cornell,  
Wm. V. V. Mabon,  
Peter D. Oakey,  
Wm. J. R. Taylor,  
Edwin Vedder,  
J. L. See.

John Gardner,  
David McNiesh,  
Charles Romont,  
William Thompson,  
A. G. Vermilye,

The seats of the following members become vacant at the meeting of the next General Synod, viz :

From the Classis of Albany, . . .	Rev. Wm. H. Campbell.
“ “ “ “ Schenectady, “	J. Van Vechten, D. D.
“ “ “ “ Passaic, . . . “	Horace Doolittle.
“ “ “ “ Montgomery, “	A. H. Myers.
“ “ “ “ Cayuga, . . . “	James Abell.
“ “ “ “ Philadelphia, “	C. C. Van Arsdale.

By reason of some oversight, which the Board cannot explain, there exists also a vacancy in the Classis of New Brunswick, no member having been elected by the last General Synod.

The Theological Commencement was held in New Brunswick agreeably to the order of the General Synod, and the arrangements adopted by the Board, on the third day of the session.

THOMAS M. STRONG, *President*.

True copy from the original minutes.

RANSFORD WELLS, *Stated Clerk*.

#### ARTICLE IV.

##### *Board of Corporation.*

The following report of the Board of Direction of the Corporation was received, accompanied with the Treasurer's Report, the Annual Digest, a list of the subscriptions unpaid to the Permanent Fund, a list of the securities belonging to the General Synod, and of moneys invested by the Board, and accounts current of said Board with the Board of Education and the Widows' Fund, together with a list of the endowed scholarships, and of the clerical subscriptions to the Widows' Fund, and papers from Peter Spader, treasurer of Rutgers College, relative to the Knox, Van Benschoten and Professoral Funds in his hands, part of which were read.

So much of the above documents as relates to the Widows' Fund was referred to the Committee on the Widows' Fund ; so much as

refers to the Board of Education, to the Committee on Education : and the residue to the Committee on the Professorate.

To the General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church :

The Board of Direction respectfully report—That the operations of the Board in relation to the various funds of the General Synod will be indicated by the Treasurer's accounts, herewith submitted.

These funds, and the investments on bond and mortgage, are believed to be on good securities, with the exception of a bond of Abraham Varick for two thousand dollars, a note of Rev. John F. Schermerhorn for five hundred and ten dollars, and two notes of one hundred dollars each, given for subscriptions to the Permanent Fund.

The bequests in Mrs. Hornbeck's will, referred to in the report to the last General Synod as being involved in a chancery litigation, are still pending in suit. The case which existed a year since, was decided in favor of the executor, who wished to pay the legacies to the Theological Seminary at New Brunswick and the Synod's Boards of Missions ; but a new bill has been filed against the executor, to enjoin him from paying these legacies. The Vice Chancellor decreed against granting such injunction, and an appeal therefrom is now before the Chancellor, and will soon be decided.

In regard to the condition of the Widows' Fund, the Board have to report—That the Fund has reached the required amount of ten thousand dollars, principal, which justifies a distribution of income, and that notice has been given for applicants to come in for a share of its benefits on or before the first of June next, (1845.)

A resolution was passed by the last General Synod, that the Board of Direction of General Synod apply, at its next session, to the Legislature of the State of New York for an act to incorporate them as the trustees of this Widows' Fund. The Board have not as yet made application for this act, and on this subject they respectfully submit to the consideration of the Synod very serious difficulties, in their apprehension, to such incorporation.

The Board find that the General Synod are now an incorporated



body by virtue of a law of the State of New York, passed 7th April, 1819, with full powers to hold property whose annual income shall not exceed ten thousand dollars, and to sue and be sued, &c. Under this incorporation, the Synod have organized Education and Mission Boards, and created the Widows' Fund, whose investments are made in the name of the General Synod. This Widows' Fund has been founded by the contributors on the confidence reposed in the General Synod and its corporate functions, and the Board therefore doubt whether the Synod can or should devolve this trust upon another corporation. The Board, therefore, desire a further consideration of this matter by the General Synod.

They would suggest to the General Synod that this Widows' Fund can be safely managed by the present arrangement of the Direction and the Treasurer, with some reasonable increase of the Treasurer's compensation, so that he may be enabled to obtain aid in keeping his accounts ; and they hope that his increased duties in the distribution and management of this Fund will justify the suggestion that relief ought to be extended.

The Board submit to the General Synod the following modifications of the general rules in relation to the Widows' Fund, and have adopted this mode because it briefly and yet clearly presents the points on which they deem there exists defects and difficulty of construction in the subsisting regulations, viz :

1. That in case of any withdrawment of money paid in, the same shall be taken from the current income, and not from the principal.

2. That the payment of a principal sum, to produce an annual interest and payment of twenty dollars, shall be calculated upon a basis of six per cent. interest per annum.

3. That in the distribution of income, the Board give further notice for applicants to come in, on or before the first of January, 1846 ; that such notice be given four months previous to such day in the Christian Intelligencer ; and on the said first of January, 1846, distribution be made of all the interest accrued and received among those who shall then have duly applied, and so from year to year on the

first of January of each year, the distribution to be made of the income accrued and received for the year preceding to the applicants who shall have then duly applied.

The Treasurer has paid to the trustees of Rutgers College the sum of nine hundred dollars, in part of the fifteen hundred dollars directed by the General Synod, and will complete the payment as soon as in funds.

The Board have executed a lease for a lot of ground adjacent to Rutgers College to the trustees of said college, as authorized by General Synod at their session in September, 1841, for the term of twenty one years, at a nominal rent, similar in its provisions to the one heretofore executed to the Trustees for the ground on which the President's house is erected.

The Board have endeavored to have an edition of the Constitution of our Church published in the German language, as directed by Synod at their last meeting, but have not found any person willing to undertake the printing thereof on the terms prescribed by Synod.

The Stryker Scholarship is completed.

Mr. Van Nest, the President of the Board, has been appointed to give Synod any further information which may be required.

All which is respectfully submitted,

ABM. VAN NEST, *President.*

THEO. FRELINGHUYSEN, } *Directors.*  
W. B. CROSBY, }  
ISAAC YOUNG, *Treasurer.*

*New-York, 31st May, 1845.*

TREASURER'S ANNUAL ACCOUNT.

*The General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church, in  
account with ISAAC YOUNG, their Treasurer.*

		DR.			
1844					
June	4	To cash paid Rev. Dr. Cannon, one quarter's salary as professor in the Theological College, due 1st instant,		\$393	75
	8	.. .. John D. Keese, treasurer of the Board of Education, interest on the invested scholarships (\$19,951.20,) up to 4th instant,	\$630 53		
		One year's interest on his note for \$300, due 6th instant,	21 00		
		Balance of interest due 31st May last,	63 81		
			\$715 34		
		Deduct six months' interest on the Richard Cadmus scholarship, \$1751.20, for accumulation,	\$52 54		
		And this amount, to complete said scholarship,	12 39	\$64 93	650 11
	10	.. .. Isaac Young, treasurer, one year's salary, due this day,	\$250 00		
		Postage, &c., paid by him,	1 88		
		.. .. " " " " for Widows' Fund,	69	252 37	
	11	.. .. Rev. Dr. Van Vranken, one quarter's salary as professor in the Theological College, due 1st instant,		393 75	
	15	.. .. Rev. Ransford Wells, his expenses in attending the meeting of the Board of Superintendents at New Brunswick on the 18th July, 1843,		2 00	
	20	.. .. Peter Spader, disbursed by him for planting twelve trees at Rutgers College,	\$6 00		
		and for a dividend on ten shares of Bergen Turnpike stock, due 1st instant,	4 50	10 50	
		Carried forward,		\$1703 96	

		DR.		
4184		Brought forward,		\$1702 98
June	20	To cash paid Peter Spader, treasurer, &c., one year's interest on Henry Rutgers' donation of \$5000 to Rutgers College, due this day,		300
	21	.. .. the door-keeper's bill, for attendance and stationery for General Synod at their meeting at Poughkeepsie this month,		16 75
July	3	.. .. Rev. Dr. Knox, his subscription for three years to the Widows' Fund, withdrawn,		60
	5	.. .. Rev. Dr. McClelland, one quarter's salary as professor in the Theological College, due 1st June last,		437 50
	13	.. .. John Post for printing the minutes of General Synod for 1844, paper, &c.,		198 27
Aug	1	.. .. Rev. John E. Miller, his subscription to the Widows' Fund for five years, withdrawn,		100
	3	.. .. Ann M. Lopez, loaned on her bond and mortgage, with interest at six per cent. per annum,		3500
	31	.. .. Rev. Benjamin Bassler, his subscription for one year to the Widows' Fund, withdrawn,		20
Sept	5	.. .. Rev. Thomas Frazer, his subscription for four years to the Widows' Fund, withdrawn,		80
	6	.. .. Rev. Dr. Samuel A. Van Vranken, one quarter's salary as professor in the Theological College, due 1st instant,		393 75
		.. .. Rev. Dr. James S. Cannon, one quarter's salary as professor in the Theological College, due 1st instant,		393 75
Oct.	15	.. .. Rev. Dr. Alexander McClelland, one quarter's salary as professor in the Theological College, due 1st September last,		437 50
	24	.. .. the delegates to the General Synod of the German Church, their expenses to Allentown, Pennsylvania, 17th instant, \$13 50 each,		27
Nov.	1	.. .. Peter Spader, treasurer of Rutgers College, towards the salary of the Janitor, \$100, and for fuel \$20, for the current year ending 25th July last,		120
	25	.. .. David B. Ogden, a counsel fee on the argument of the demurrer before the Chancellor, respecting the devise by Elizabeth P. Hornbeck, deceased, to the Theological College and others,		25
	26	.. .. Peter Spader, treasurer of Rutgers College, on account of \$1500 agreed to be paid by General Synod to the trustees of said College by their resolution made in June last,		600
Dec.	3	.. .. Rev. Dr. James S. Cannon, one quarter's salary as professor in the Theological College, due 1st instant,		393 75
Carried forward,				\$8,806 25

		DR.			
1844		Brought forward,		\$8,806	25
Dec.	3	To cash paid Rev. Dr. Samuel A. Van Vranken, one quarter's salary as professor in the Theological College, due 1st instant,		393	75
	7	.. .. John D. Keese, treasurer of the Board of Education, interest on the invested scholarships in the Theological College up to 4th instant,		734	03
	20	.. .. Peter Spader, agent, &c., expended by him in repairs to Rutgers College,		87	42
		.. .. Peter Spader, agent, &c., one half of the salary of the librarian of Rutgers College for one year ending 1st April next,		50	
		.. .. Rev. Dr. Alexander McClelland, one quarter's salary as professor in the Theological College, due 1st instant,		437	50
	23	.. .. Rev. Dr. De Witt, advanced by him to J. R. Brodhead for procuring church documents at Amsterdam,		98	30
1845					
Jan.	14	.. .. Rev. Joseph Wilson, his subscription for three years to the Widows' Fund, withdrawn,		60	
	15	.. .. Greenwich Insurance Company, premium of insurance on Rutgers College, \$8000, for one year from this day,		40	
Mar	4	.. .. Rev. Dr. Samuel A. Van Vranken, one quarter's salary as professor in the Theological College, due 1st instant,		393	75
	6	.. .. Rev. James S. Cannon, D. D., one quarter's salary as professor in the Theological College, due 1st instant,		393	75
		.. .. Rev. Dr. Alexander McClelland, one quarter's salary as professor in the Theological College, due 1st instant,		437	50
	17	.. .. John R. Dengeldein, loaned to him by General Synod on his bond, dated 1st instant, with interest at 6 per cent. per annum, secured by mortgage,		3500	
Apr.	11	.. .. Peter Spader, treasurer of Rutger's College, on account of \$1500, agreed to be paid by General Synod to the trustees of said College, per resolution made in June last,		300	
	14	.. .. Peter Spader, treasurer of Rutger's College, towards six months' salary of the janitor of said College, due 25th January last, \$50 and for fuel for the current year, ending 25th July next, \$20—		70	
May	26	.. .. Rev. Dr. Strong, stated clerk of General Synod, one year's salary, due 1st June, \$100 00 and for postage paid by him, 2 60—		102	60
		.. .. Rev. Dr. Hardenbergh, his subscription for two years to the Widows' Fund, withdrawn,		40	
Carried forward,				\$15,944	85

		DR.	
1845	Brought forward,		\$15,914 85
May	To cash paid the following persons, their expenses in attending the meeting of the Board of Superintendents of the Theological College at New Brunswick, viz :		
	Rev. Jeremiah Searle,	\$7 00	
	" John H. Pitcher,	11 00	
	" Francis M. Kip,	5 56	
	" Ransford Wells, including disbursements, &c., as stated clerk,	15 49	
	" A. B. Chittenden,	13 00	
	" C. C. Van Arsdale, twice,	16 00	
	" Abraham H. Myers,	12 50	
	" James Abell,	20 00	
	" John C. Vandervoort,	7 50	
	" C. L. Van Dyck,	5 50	
	" Charles Whitehead,	5 00	
	" J. S. Himrod,	7 75	
	" John Garretson,	4 00	
	" Ebenezer Wiggins, twice,	6 75	
	" Dr. Thomas M. Strong,	2 50	
	" Dr. Jacob Schoomaker,	2 75	
	" Dr. J. B. Hardenbergh,	5 00—	147 30
..	.. the following delegates to the triennial convention of the Dutch and German churches at Harrisburgh, Pennsylvania, on the 6th August last, their travelling expenses, viz :		
	Henry Loucks,	\$25 00	
	Ephraim Smith,	24 25	
	George Zabriskie,	20 00	
	Rev. Dr. John Gosman,	22 00	
	" Dr. J. Schoomaker,	20 00	
	" Dr. Thomas M. Strong,	20 00—	131 25
	To balance in Bank this day,		3650 49
			<u>\$19,873 89</u>

1844		CR.			
May	31	By balance brought from account rendered this day,		\$4,211	54
June	1	By cash received six months' interest on bonds for \$10,000, due 22d May last,		350	
	4	.. .. collected in the R. Dutch Church in Market street, New York, for the Widows' Fund, \$57 00			
		deduct this amount, to be applied to payment of the subscription of the Rev. Dr. Ferris, the pastor, for the years 1843 and 1844, 40 00			
				17	
	5	.. .. balance of six months' interest on bond for \$8500, due 3d April last,		197	50
	8	.. .. of John D. Keese, one year's interest on his note for \$300, as Treasurer of the Board of Education, due 4th instant,		21	
	13	.. .. of Rev. Charles S. Hegeman, Questor of the Classis of Paramus, for Minutes of General Synod,		12	
	15	.. .. of Rev. Ransford Wells, collected in the R. Dutch Church at Schuylerville, for the Widows' Fund,		7	16
	19	.. .. for a dividend on 23 shares of Bergen Turnpike stock,		10	35
	20	.. .. Peter Spader, agent, &c., the balance of interest on the professoral funds of the Theological College in his hands,		157	27
	24	.. .. of the Collegiate Dutch Church, New York, six months' interest on their bonds to General Synod for \$26,000, at 6 per cent.,		780	
July	8	.. .. of Rev. Peter Van Zandt, his subscription to the permanent fund of General Synod, and two years' interest thereon,		114	
	12	.. .. of John A. Lott and John B. Zabriskie, executors, &c., of Maria Freeborn, deceased, being a legacy of \$1000 by her to General Synod, for the education and support of some suitable pious young man preparing for the Gospel Ministry in the Reformed Dutch Church, and interest from 5th January, 1843, the time of her decease, to the 5th June last,		1085	
	22	.. .. of Rev. Abraham H. Myers, Questor of the Classis of Montgomery, for Minutes of General Synod,		2	50
	25	.. .. of Rev. J. H. Van Wagenen, Questor of the Classis of Ulster, for Minutes of General Synod,		20	
	3	.. .. for six months' interest on bond for \$4000, due 4th June last,		120	
Aug	12	.. .. for six months' interest on bond for \$3600, due 30th July last,		108	
Carried forward,				\$7,213	32

		CR.			
1844		Brought forward,		\$7,213	32
Aug	16	By cash received for six months' interest on bond for \$1000, due 13th instant,		30	
	20	.. .. for six months' interest on bond for \$6000, due 4th June last,		180	
Oct.	8	.. .. for Minutes of General Synod, furnished to the Classis of Schenectady,		6	
	16	.. .. of Rev. Dr. Marselus, Questor of the Classis of New York, for Minutes of General Synod,		26	75
	22	.. .. for six months' interest on bonds for \$3500, due 16th instant,		105	
	26	.. .. of Rev. Robert P. Lee, Jr., Questor of the Classis of Orange, for Minutes of General Synod,		15	
Nov	2	.. .. for six months' interest on bond for \$5000, due yesterday,		150	
	4	.. .. of Rev. R. O. Currie, collected in the Dutch Church at New Utrecht, for the Widows' Fund,		16	84
	5	.. .. for six months' interest on bond for \$8500, due 3d October last,		255	
	6	.. .. for six months' interest on bonds for \$8300, due this day,		249	
	7	.. .. for six months' interest on bond for \$2500, due 26th October last,		75	
	9	.. .. for six months' interest on bond for \$2000, due 23d October last,		60	
	11	.. .. for Minutes of General Synod sold at the office of the Christian Intelligencer,		5	25
	22	.. .. for six months' interest on bond for \$10,000, due this day,		350	
	25	.. .. for six months' interest, on bond for \$2800, due 27th October last,		84	
	28	.. .. for six months' interest on three bonds for \$9600, of R. Dutch Church in Broome street,		288	
		.. .. for six months' interest on bonds for \$10,000, due 22d instant,		350	
Dec.	6	.. .. collected in the R. Dutch Church at Schenectady, for the expenses of General Synod,		6	58
	9	.. .. of John D. Keese, treasurer of the Board of Education, on account of the endowment of the Stryker scholarship,		1000	
		.. .. collected in the R. Dutch Church at Flatbush, for the expenses of General Synod,		12	07
	11	.. .. collected in the R. Dutch Church at Somerville, for the Widows' Fund,		15	
	16	.. .. of Rev. William S. Moore, to secure an interest in the Widows' Fund according to an additional article appended by General Synod in June last to the plan of the Fund,		333	33
	27	.. .. collected in the Collegiate Dutch Churches in New York, for the Widows' Fund,		142	27
Carried forward,				\$10,968	41



		CR.			
1844		Brought forward,		\$10,968	41
Dec.	30	By cash collected in the R. Dutch Church at Gowanua, Long Island, for the Widows' Fund,		12	
1845					
Jan.	4	.. .. a dividend on 23 shares of Bergen Turnpike stock,		17	25
	6	.. .. collected in the First Dutch Church at New Brunswick, for the Widows' Fund,		13	85
	30	.. .. for six months' interest on James Dean's bond to General Synod for \$3600, due yesterday,	\$108 00		
		and on account of the principal of said bond,	1600 00		
	31	.. .. for six months' interest on bond for \$3500, due this day,		1708	
Feb.	12	.. .. of Catelina Oothout, her subscription to the Theological College, \$500, with interest,		105	
	24	.. .. for six months' interest on bond for \$4000, due 4th December last,		523	50
		.. .. of Mentz & Rovoudt, for license to print 3000 copies of the Psalm Book,		120	
	27	.. .. for six months' interest on four bonds of the Collegiate Church, New York, for \$26,000,		179	50
	28	.. .. for six months' interest on bond for \$6000, due 4th December last,		780	
Mar	29	.. .. for six months' interest on bond for \$1000, due 13th February last,		180	
Apr	1	.. .. of Rev. M. W. Dwight, Questor, for Minutes of General Synod furnished to the South Classis of Long Island,		30	
	15	.. .. of Rev. S. H. Meeker, Questor of the South Classis of New York, for Minutes of General Synod,		6	75
	16	.. .. of Rev. Dr. Marselus, Questor of the Classis of New-York, for Minutes of General Synod,		7	
	22	.. .. six months' interest on bonds for \$3500, due 16th instant,		5	25
		.. .. for Minutes of General Synod furnished to the Classis of Albany,	\$42 50	105	
	23	and to the Classis of Washington,	7 50		
		.. .. of Rev. A. H. Bishop, Questor of the North Classis of Long Island, for Minutes of General Synod,		50	
May	1	.. .. of Rev. W. J. Taylor, Questor of the Classis of Bergen, for Minutes of General Synod,		3	50
	3	.. .. for six months' interest on bond for \$2500, due 26th April last,		13	
	5	.. .. for six months' interest on bonds for \$8300, due to-morrow,		75	
				249	
		Carried forward,		\$15,152	01

		CR.	
1845		Brought forward,	\$15,152 01
May	8	By cash received for six months' interest on bond for \$2800, due 27th April last,	84
	..	.. of Rev. Jacob C. Sears, this amount for the purpose of securing to him an interest in the Widows' Fund, according to an additional article appended by General Synod to the plan of said fund,	206
	9	.. of John D. Keese, treasurer of the Board of Education, which completes the Stryker scholarship,	1000
	12	.. for six months' interest on bond for \$2000, due 23d April last,	60
	14	.. of Rev. John L. Zabriskie, Questor of the Classis of New Brunswick, for Minutes of General Synod,	17 50
	..	.. six months' interest on bond for \$8500, due 3d April last,	255
	21	.. six months' interest on bond for \$10,000, due tomorrow,	350
	28	.. six months' interest on bonds for \$10,000, due 22d instant,	350
	..	.. balance of a collection in the R. Dutch Church in Franklin street, for the Widows' Fund,	9 38
	..	.. for interest on subscriptions to the permanent fund, due 1st May, 1844, of	
		John Oothout,	\$30
		Catelina Oothout,	30
		Cornelius Duryee,	15
		David H. Haight,	30
		Thomas C. Doremus,	30
		Collegiate Dutch Church, N. York,	300
		David L. Haight,	30
		Leffert Lefferts,	30
		Stephen Van Rensselaer,	300
		Maria J. Kissam,	30
		Francis Olmsted, three years,	36
		Abraham Van Nest, two years,	600
		Abraham Van Nest, one year, due 1st May, 1845,	300—
	..	.. of the following clergymen, their subscriptions to the Widows' Fund, viz:	1761
		Rev. Dr. Isaac Ferris,	\$40
		" " Benjamin C. Taylor,	20
		" J. H. Van Wagenen,	20
		" Brogun Hoff,	61 80
		" Edward H. May,	20
		" James R. Talmage,	40
		" Enoch Van Aken,	20
		" David A. Jones,	20
		" Peter J. Quick,	20
		Carried forward,	\$19,244 89

JUNE, 1845.

		CR.	
1845 May	Brought forward,		\$19,244 89
	Rev. R. O. Currie, .	20	
	" Joel Wood,	80	
	" Benjamin Van Zandt,	20	
	" Henry A. Raymond,	20	
	" Dr. Nicholas I. Marselus,	67 20	
	" George G. Sill,	20	
	" Alexander H. Warner,	20	
	" Isaac S. Demund,	20	
	" Dr. J. R. Hardenbergh,	60	
	" R. W. Knight,	20	
	" Samuel Robertson,	20	629
			\$19,873 89
By balance carried to new account,			\$3,650 49

ISAAC YOUNG,

Treasurer.

The subscribers, appointed a Committee to examine the Treasurer's Accounts, have examined the same with the vouchers exhibited by him, and find them correct, leaving a balance due to General Synod of three thousand six hundred and fifty dollars and forty-nine cents.

ABM. VAN NEST, } Committee.  
W. B. CROSBY. }

New-York, June 2d, 1845.

## ANNUAL DIGEST, 1845.

The Board of Direction submit to General Synod their Annual Digest, as follows:

## FUNDS DEVOTED TO EDUCATION.

*The Van Benschoten Fund.*

This fund, as reported by Peter Spader, Treasurer of Rutgers College, (and which is loaned upon bonds secured by mortgages on property in the State of New Jersey,) amounted, on the 1st April, 1845, to	\$20,250 00
Balance in his hands 1st April, 1845,	1,048 91
Interest due on same fund 1st May, 1845,	1,368 70
There has been paid to indigent students, out of the interest of this fund, during the past year,	1,207 00

*Legacy of Miss Rebecca Knox.*

The amount of this fund, (which is loaned on bonds secured by mortgage of property in the State of New Jersey,) is	2,000 00
Interest due on this fund 1st May, 1845,	120 00
Balance in the hands of Peter Spader, Treasurer, &c., 1st April, 1845,	77 11
Nothing has been paid to indigent students out of the interest of this fund during the past year.	
Amount of moneys invested by the Board of Direction for educational purposes,	26,085 00
Balance in the hands of the Treasurer of General Synod,	1,000 00

## WIDOWS' FUND.

Amount of moneys invested by the Board of Direction for the Widows' Fund,	\$10,400 00
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Balance of principal in the hands of the Treasurer of General Synod,	331 83
Income in the hands of the Treasurer of General Synod to be distributed,	695 53

## PERMANENT PROFESSORAL FUND.

Under this head are included all the moneys which have been collected and invested on the subscriptions for the Professorships as well as the moneys formerly in the hands of the Trustees of Rutgers College, viz :

Loaned by the Board of Direction, secured by bonds and mortgages of real estate,	\$69,015 00
Balance of the Professoral Fund, formerly in the hands of the Trustees of Rutgers College, and transferred to General Synod, as per account of Peter Spader, Agent, &c., on the 1st May, 1845,	2,730 00
Twenty-three shares of Bergen Turnpike stock, ten of which belong to Rutgers College, valued at	575 00
Notes given for subscriptions,	200 00
Rev. John F. Schermerhorn's note,	510 00

## MINUTES OF GENERAL SYNOD.

There has been received for Minutes of General Synod, during the past year,	190 50
And there has been paid for printing Minutes, paper, binding, &c.,	198 27

ABM. VAN NEST, *President.*

W. B. CROSBY,

THEO. FRELINGHUYSEN, } *Directors.*

ISAAC YOUNG, *Treasurer.*

*New-York, 31st May, 1845.*

The Committee on Nominations having reported, the Synod proceeded to the election of the Board of Direction of the Corporation. On counting the ballots it appeared that the following were chosen : Abraham Van Nest, President ; Messrs. William B. Crosby, Theodore Frelinghuysen and Rev. John Knox, D. D., Directors ; and Isaac Young, Treasurer.

#### ARTICLE V.

##### *Correspondence.*

The Rev. John H. A. Bomberger, of the German Reformed Church, appeared in Synod, and having produced testimonials of his appointment, took his seat as a Corresponding Delegate.

The Rev. Gardiner Spring, D. D., of the Presbyterian Church, appeared in Synod, and having produced testimonials of his appointment, took his seat as a Corresponding Delegate from the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States.

The following report was received from the delegate appointed to attend the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church :

To the General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church—

The undersigned respectfully reports, that according to appointment he attended the meetings of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, which commenced in the city of Cincinnati on the 15th of May instant, and that he was received and treated with most entire courtesy and kindness. The occasion was to him one of much interest. Various questions, bearing alike upon every department of the Church of Christ, were discussed with ability, earnestness, and in the best spirit. The meetings were harmonious throughout ; and a gratifying respect and cordiality of feeling towards the Church represented by the undersigned was in various ways indicated. In doctrinal sentiment the churches are identical, and in their views of church order they are not essentially at variance. It is fit that their best sympathies should blend in harmony.

The correspondence between the two is cordial, and, in the judgment of your delegate, is important.

Respectfully submitted,

*May 31, 1845.*

JOHN KNOX.

The following report was received from the delegates appointed to attend the last meeting of the General Synod of the German Reformed Church :

The delegates to the German Reformed Synod respectfully report—That they had the pleasure of attending several sessions of that venerable body, and that they were exceedingly gratified with the cordial reception with which they were welcomed. They notice, as a mark of respect to our church, that the consideration of the subject of the Triennial Convention was deferred to await the arrival of your delegates, and then was discussed in their presence with such a uniform manifestation of fraternal affection, and approved with such unanimity, as was most gratifying to your representatives and most flattering to our church. The order of business, and the general mode of its transaction, were so similar to our own, that, although some of the brethren spoke entirely in the German language, yet your delegates felt as though they were at home. But the manner of dismissing your delegation left a pleasing and solemn impression which they will never forget. The business was arrested—the Synod stood—your representatives were addressed by one (who was emphatically, in the German idiom of the venerable President, “mighty in the English,”) in an outpouring of the kindest sentiments and most affectionate wishes for us and for our church—and then every man, from the aged President to the youngest member, taking us by the hand bade us God speed, (some even with tears of affection)—so that your delegates rejoiced in heart for all the brotherly love, and wished that such valedictories might obtain among christian brethren everywhere on similar occasions. Upon the whole, your delegates cannot but congratulate this Synod that

the bonds of fraternal intercourse with this church are becoming closer and closer.

All which is respectfully submitted,

O. H. GREGORY,  
I. N. WYCKOFF.

A copy of the Minutes of the Triennial Convention of Delegates from the General Synod of the German Reformed Church, from the Synod of Ohio and of the adjacent States, and from the General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church, held at Harrisburgh in August last, was received and read, and referred to the Committee on Correspondence.

An extract from the Minutes of the General Synod of the German Reformed Church, containing their action relative to the proceedings of the Triennial Convention, was received, read and referred to the Committee on Correspondence.

A communication was received from the Rev. John N. McLeod, D. D., Stated Clerk of the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church, accompanied with a copy of the Minutes of the last meeting of said Synod, containing the preamble and resolutions adopted by the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church on the subject of the recent correspondence, by delegation, between the Reformed Dutch and Reformed Presbyterian Church, which was referred to the Committee on Correspondence.

The Rev. Dr. De Witt, in behalf of the Committee appointed to correspond with the Classis of Amsterdam, presented to Synod a letter which had been received by the committee from said Classis, which was read and ordered to be printed in the Appendix to the Minutes.

*Resolved*, That the Committee to correspond with the Classis of Amsterdam be continued, and that they be requested to answer the above letter.

The Committee on Correspondence reported, and their report was adopted, and is as follows :



The Committee on Correspondence beg leave to report to Synod— That in prosecution of the duties assigned to them, they have examined the Minutes of the Triennial Convention of the Synods of the Reformed Protestant Dutch and German Reformed Churches, together with the official Minutes of the last Synod of the German Reformed Church, in reference to the proceedings of this Convention. From the documents it appears that the delegates appointed by the Synods of the above named churches, assembled in convention at Harrisburgh on the second Thursday in August last, and having been opened with prayer, entered upon the business of their sessions. Committees were appointed to prepare and propose to the Convention such facts respecting the condition, and wants and prospects of the respective churches as might properly claim the attention of the Convention. These Committees furnished detailed statements of the spiritual and temporal condition of both denominations, including a view of all the benevolent and educational institutions maintained by each. In addition, the Convention resolved itself into an interlocutory meeting, in which a free interchange of sentiments and mutual enquiry was had with respect to the subjects embraced in these reports. The Convention then appointed a committee of seven of its members to introduce such propositions as might seem necessary, in view of the facts which had been gathered by the above means of information.

This committee reported the following points for the consideration of the Convention :

“ 1. That the licentiates of the respective Synods, who may furnish testimonials that they have studied three years in either seminary, shall be considered as candidates in all the churches represented in this Convention, and that each seminary be directed to furnish to the Faculty of the others an annual list of licentiates as they successively issue from the institution.

“ 2. That a correspondence be maintained between the students of the seminaries of each church, with a view to cultivate reciprocal

affection, and to awaken a mutual interest in the rising ministry of the respective bodies.”

“ 3. That the system of instruction in the seminaries of the respective churches be conformed to each other as nearly as may be, by the adoption of the same text-book of didactic theology.

“ 4. That there should be as near an agreement as possible in the liturgy and form of worship in the churches of the different bodies represented.

“ 5. That vigorous efforts be made by the Reformed Dutch Church to extend her missionary operations in the destitute parts of the German Reformed Church—the missionaries to be employed in the field to act under the immediate direction of an efficient Board, to be established at some suitable point by the Synod of the latter church. It also appears desirable that the churches which may be organized by the missionaries of the Reformed Dutch Church, unite themselves with the German Reformed Church, unless they should be contiguous to some organization of the Reformed Dutch Church, and the disposition would be in favor of an union with the latter body.”

These propositions were unanimously adopted by the Convention.

The Convention also adopted *some other resolutions* in relation to the objects of its structure, and these resolutions are as follows :

“ 1. *Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Synods represented in this Convention to make provision for having future conventions opened with a sermon.

“ 2. *Resolved*, That it be further recommended that this service shall be performed by a minister to be appointed by each Synod in rotation—and that the Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church be requested to make such an appointment for the next Convention. The Convention further

“ 3. *Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Synods represented to fix upon the second Wednesday in August, 1847, as the time, and Reading, Penn., as the place, for holding the next meeting ; and

that future Conventions be authorized to settle the time and place for holding the succeeding Convention."

Your Committee learn further that the Synod of the German Reformed Church, at its session in October last, expresses their gratified approbation of the holding and the influences of the Convention, and that they took action, as follows, on the various points and resolutions proposed. They

*"Resolved, That the suggestions of the Triennial Convention are cordially approved by this Synod, and that every facility shall be afforded by the various Boards of Synod for their punctual fulfilment."*

The Synod, however, made an exception to one particular, in the the third point above stated, which relates to uniformity of the systems of instructions used in the Theological Seminaries of the respective Synods; and the words *"by the adoption of the same text-book in theology"* were stricken out. The Synod further

*"Resolved, That in case the action of the Convention be consummated by the Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church at its next meeting, a board be appointed by the Synod to co-operate with its Board of Missions in relation to the extension of the missionary operations of the German Reformed Church, by means of missionaries from the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church, who shall unite themselves with the German Reformed Church, unless they should be contiguous to some organization of the Reformed Dutch Church, for which they might have greater affinity or predilection."*

In the review of this matter, your Committee recommend to this Synod the following resolutions:

1st. That this Synod unites with the Synod of the German Reformed Church, in an expression of gratification upon the holding of this Convention, and of the hope that it may become the means of promoting fraternal confidence and affection between the two bodies; and that they deem it of great importance that this feeling should be perpetuated and increased.

2nd. As it respects the propositions above mentioned as adopted by the Convention :

I. That the first be approved and adopted, and that the Theological Faculty be requested to transmit to the Theological Faculty of the German Synod a catalogue of our licentiates annually.

II. That the second be approved and adopted, and the Society of Enquiry of our Seminary be requested to correspond with the Seminary of the German Synod.

III. That the third be approved and adopted upon striking out the words, "*by the adoption of the same text-book of didactic theology.*"

IV. That the fourth be approved and adopted.

V. That the fifth be approved and adopted, subject to the following restrictions : 1st. The necessary attention to be given to our own Missions. 2d. The general agreement of the constitution of the Board to be appointed in the German Synod, under whose directions the missionaries shall operate, with that of our own Domestic Board. And 3d. The substitution of the word "or" instead of the word "and," in the latter part of the proposition, so that it shall read, "*or the disposition should be in favor,*" &c.

3dly. As it respects the resolutions adopted by the Convention :

1. That the first resolution named above be approved and adopted.

2. That the second resolution be approved and adopted, and that it be referred to the Synod, on whom the duty shall devolve of electing the representatives in the next Triennial Convention, to elect at the same time the preacher who shall perform the duty mentioned.

3. That the third resolution be approved and adopted.

4thly. As it respects the resolutions adopted by the Synod of the German Reformed Church on this matter :

That the missionaries who may be sent to labor under the direction of the Board to be appointed by the German Synod, shall retain their relations to this Synod, excepting when they may become settled pastors over churches belonging to the Classes of the German Reformed Church ; and that they shall be required to report to our

Board of Domestic Missions, as well as to that of the German Synod at least semi-annually.

*Resolved*, That the Board of Domestic Missions be instructed to correspond with the proper Board in the German Reformed Church, in reference to the employment of young men from our Theological Seminary, or the candidates of the German Church, as missionaries among the German population, and that they be authorized and empowered to expend at least one thousand dollars in the support of such missionaries the present year.

*Resolved*, That when the Board have made such arrangement, they communicate information of the same to the churches, and call their special attention to measures for raising funds.

In the further consideration of this subject, your Committee would respectfully call the attention of Synod to two distinct points, which deserve notice, in perfecting such arrangements as are now contemplated. One of these points is, the rule requiring repayment of moneys appropriated from any beneficiary who leaves our church for the service of another. The second point is, the propriety of having some competent committee, or competent system, by which candidates of our church, who may propose to go over and settle among our German brethren, may be properly directed and aided. And in relation to these points, your Committee recommend the following resolutions:

1st. That beneficiaries, who may go from us and join the German Reformed Church, shall not be affected in any way by the rule above mentioned. And

2d. That it be recommended to the Synods represented, in addition to our own, in the Triennial Convention, to adopt some arrangement, whether by committee or otherwise, by which candidates from our church, wishing to settle as pastors in the German Reformed Church, may be aided in obtaining such settlement.

Your Committee further report, that upon an examination of the matter of correspondence with the Reformed Presbyterian Church, as it has been formally brought to the notice of this Synod by the

last General Synod of the Church just named, no particular circumstances are discovered which, in the judgment of your Committee, give any materially different aspect to the state of the case. The corresponding delegate from this Synod attended the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in May, 1843, and as he then reported to Synod, was not invited to partake of the Lord's Supper, administered on the Sabbath previous to the constitution of Synod, in part for the social communion of the assembled ministers of the body. This circumstance the General Synod of our Church then thought of such a nature as to make it proper to change the *nature* of the correspondence, notwithstanding that the original terms of correspondence proposed no plan of ecclesiastical union or sacramental fellowship, but of correspondence for general purposes. The action of the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church, in reference to the conclusions adopted by this house at its session in June, 1843, is the special subject referred to your Committee. And of this action, your Committee have remarked above, that it furnishes no circumstances materially altering the earlier aspect of the case. The following resolutions are therefore recommended for adoption :

1st. That this Synod most cordially reciprocates the assurances of regard expressed by the Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church, with earnest desires and prayers for their continued prosperity and increasing usefulness, and wishes unto them "grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ."

2d. That the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church be most respectfully referred to the opinion given by this Synod at its session in June, 1843, to wit : that while this Synod is pleased to hear of the harmony, orthodoxy and zeal of the Reformed Presbyterian Church, and still wishes to maintain with them social and affectionate intercourse, it is deemed inexpedient to send delegates for that purpose, as all the benefits of this correspondence can be enjoyed by a reciprocal interchange of their Annual Minutes, and other friendly acts of kindness and confidence.

3d. That the Stated Clerk be directed to transmit a copy of these resolutions to the Stated Clerk of the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church.

All which is respectfully submitted by order of the Committee.

GEO. H. FISHER, *Chairman*.

The Committee on Correspondence having reported a double number of persons from whom to elect delegates to the corresponding churches, the Synod proceeded to the election, when the following were chosen :

To the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church—Rev. John Garretson, *Primarius*, and Rev. Thomas M. Strong, D.D., *Secundus*.

To the General Synod of the German Reformed Church—Rev. Isaac Ferris, D. D. and John Proudfit, D. D., *Primarii* ; and Rev. Nicholas I. Marselus, D. D., and Wm. H. Campbell, D. D., *Secundi*.

#### ARTICLE VI.

##### *Synodical Reports on the State of the Churches.*

In conformity with a standing regulation, Synod spent a part of the afternoon of the first day of the session in religious exercises.

The Committee on the State of Religion reported, and their report was adopted, and is as follows :

The Committee on the State of Religion beg leave respectfully to report :

From the statistical tables furnished by the different Classes, it appears that within the bounds of the particular Synods of New-York and Albany, there are thirty-two churches destitute of settled pastors. How many of these enjoy with any good degree of regularity, the stated administration of the word and ordinances, cannot by us be determined ; but warranted, from the nature of the case, to believe that some of these churches are suffering temporarily from a suspension of the divinely instituted means of grace, and

that many are liable to permanent injury from the same cause, the Committee express the earnest wish that all appropriate efforts be made for the speedy settlement of faithful pastors, who shall go in and out before the people, and break to them the bread of life. We are gratified, however, to learn that the number of destitute congregations is less at the present time by eleven than at the period of the last annual report.

The number of ministers without pastoral charges, belonging to the different Classes, is thirty-eight, fifteen less than the number reported last year. Among these are several who, animated by the expansive benevolence of the Gospel, have left kindred and country, and are laboring as missionaries "far hence among the Gentiles;" some are engaged as stated supplies to particular congregations, and others are occupied in the important and responsible work of training young men in literary and theological learning.

It is painful to record that during the past year one who was formerly numbered among us as a preacher of the pure and sanctifying religion of Jesus—the Rev. Isáac P. Labagh, of the South Classis of Long-Island,—has become obnoxious to the discipline of the church, and has been suspended from the exercise of the functions of the christian ministry, in consequence of his entertaining heretical views upon certain points of doctrine and practice, and of being guilty of insubordination and contumacy towards the Classis.

The church has been called during the past year to part with three of her most active and efficient servants by death—the Rev. J. I. Christie, of the Classis of Paramus, the Rev. J. H. Van Wagener, of the Classis of Ulster, and the Rev. Andrew Yates, D. D., of the Classis of Schenectady. The love and respect cherished toward each of these while living, prompt a grateful recollection of their memories now that they have forever ceased from their earthly labors. They were devoted and successful servants in their Master's vineyard, and having finished the work which was given them to do, we indulge the pleasing hope that they have only been transferred to some brighter department of the Creator's universe, and



advanced to more perfect services and enjoyments in their Redeemer's heaven. Of the Rev. Dr. Yates it may be truly said, that he was untiring in his zeal and indefatigable in his efforts to promote the temporal and spiritual interests of the church of his fathers. It was his habit, during the later years of his life, to labor in destitute places, to collect into union and harmony scattered remnants from the fold of Christ, to strengthen the weak, encourage the desponding, and confirm the wavering. And not a few churches organized through his instrumentality, once weak in numbers and influence, can trace their present prosperity, under God, to his benevolent exertions and his effectual, fervent prayers. In this his chosen work he was vigorously engaged, when he was suddenly called hence. He died as a warrior on the field, with his armor upon him, sounding the note of encouragement to the church, certain, through Christ, of her ultimate and triumphant victory. While we would thus cherish, with gratitude to God, the memory of these our departed brethren, we would seek that their example may stimulate us to greater diligence in the service of the Redeemer, while from their graves we would listen to the admonitory voice, "Be ye also ready for the coming of the Son of Man."

The efforts of our church for the spread of the Gospel among the heathen, seem to be gradually acquiring a degree of vigor and efficiency which are a sure indication of a growing interest among the people in the holy cause of Missions, and an evidence of the favor of Him who died for the salvation of a fallen world. It is believed there is more of earnest prayer on behalf of those who are perishing for lack of vision, and, as a natural consequence, there is a spirit of corresponding liberality prompting to greater sacrifices and richer offerings for the extension of the Kingdom and Glory of the Redeemer. The prospects of our foreign operations have greatly brightened during the past year. The difficulties that attended our missionaries at Borneo, have to a good extent been overcome, and we are encouraged to hope that all the obstacles by which they have been heretofore trammelled, will be speedily and entirely removed.

China has welcomed our messengers to her shores, and the efforts commenced in that vast and benighted empire bid fair to be immediately and eminently successful. For many years the faith of our church has been greatly tried by numerous disappointments and unanticipated discouragements. But we trust that the night of our trials, so long and so dark, is well nigh past, and that the morning of a bright and prosperous day is beginning to dawn upon us. May our beloved missionaries, who have so long sown in tears, be now permitted to reap with joy.

From the relation recently consummated with the German Reformed Church, which provides for active co-operation in the south and west for the purpose of supplying the spiritual wants of the multitudes of Protestant Germans and their descendants inhabiting those regions of our country, great benefits are anticipated. In their lack of preachers of their own denomination to supply the wants of the people, we are invited to send forth laborers into that inviting field ; and there is every reason to believe that the combined efforts of the two churches, allied as they are in doctrine and order, will greatly contribute to the extension of the pure faith of the Gospel, the uprooting of destructive errors, and the salvation of many souls.

From the various sources of information before us, we learn that a spirit of peace and harmony continues to prevail throughout the borders of our beloved Zion. During the past year no portion of our church has been in any degree disturbed by questions which engender strifes and discords among brethren, which contribute so much to the reproach of the Gospel in the eyes of the world, and by which the Saviour is so effectually wounded in the house of his friends. The stated means of grace have been extensively, and, with but few exceptions, uninterruptedly enjoyed : and by the instrumentality of these, we have occasion to rejoice that at least a few have been gathered into the visible fold of Christ, who give pleasing evidence that in heart and life they are consecrated to the glory of the Redeemer. The public worship of the sanctuary, the social prayer meeting, the monthly concert and the Sabbath school, are well at-

tended, and the services appropriate to these respective institutions appear in the main to be duly appreciated.

But notwithstanding these indications of the external prosperity of the churches under our care, we are nevertheless pained to find that while we have the outward forms of religion, and are enjoying the various ordinances of the Gospel, they seem to be, to a melancholy extent, unaccompanied by the power of Divine Grace. Within the bounds of the entire field which God has given us to cultivate, we learn of only about six churches that have been visited during the past year with special outpourings of the Spirit. With these few exceptions, we hear from every quarter only expressions of unfeigned grief—of mourning and lamentation, because of the spiritual dearth that prevails among the churches. Instead of joyful accounts of those seasons of refreshing, which are the source of so much comfort and prosperity to the church, and the sure pledge of the Divine presence and favor, we hear only of the coldness and worldliness of the professed people of God, and are told on every hand that the ways of Zion mourn because so few from the world come to her solemn feasts. Pastor after pastor is heard uttering the melancholy exclamation, “Who hath believed our report, and to whom hath the arm of the Lord been revealed?” And when, in reference to any indicated tokens for good, the enquiry is propounded, “Watchman, what of the night?” none of us feel the assurance to respond, “The morning cometh.” The clouds of midnight are still resting heavily over us. There are no signs of approaching day.

Though, as already observed, the means of grace have been generally enjoyed, and though in all the ways divinely appointed we have reason to believe the Gospel has been proclaimed with a frequency, a plainness, and an earnestness unsurpassed in any former time, still to but few has it, during the past year, been made the power of God unto salvation. Seldom has it been the delightful privilege of the pastor to guide the enquiring sinner to Jesus, or yet to hear the rejoicing penitent attempting to make known what great things the Lord had done for his soul!

God hath indeed a controversy with us. The early and the latter rain has been withheld. The dews of Divine Grace rest not upon the heritage of the Lord; and the vineyard which we are called to cultivate, lies this hour before our eyes comparatively cheerless, parched and barren.

In view of this "hour and power of darkness" which have thus come upon us, is it not duty to pause and enquire, "Wherefore doth the Lord thus contend with his people?" We know that the evils we deplore are not causeless. We know that while God is sovereign upon his throne, giving and withholding according to his own pleasure, still it is a rule of his kingdom that he usually deals with his people according to the measure of their fidelity in his service. He has said that "the backslider in heart shall be filled with his own ways." He has connected the gift of the spirit with earnest and importunate prayer, "Ask and ye shall receive." And he has pledged the continued smiles of his countenance to those only whose lives are characterized "by patient continuance in well doing." He has threatened his people with merited chastisements when they forget their first works, and decline in the ardor of that love which warmed their hearts and animated their zeal in the day of their espousals.

In view of this principle of the divine economy, and with the painful conviction that God is dealing with us in reference to it, are we not forced to the conclusion that sin rests upon our church, and that she is suffering rebuke and chastisement because of her transgression? We are constrained to confess that we have departed from the Lord, and in judgment he has departed from us. The spirit of the world has been permitted to gain a strong hold upon the hearts of God's peculiar people, and he who has said, "Ye cannot serve two masters," and who has declared that he will not share his glory with any rival, is angry with us, has turned away his face from us, and we are suffering under his righteous indignation.

What, then, is the duty of the church under these circumstances? We are not wanting in explicit instructions as to our duty. The

concurrent counsel from the word of God, and the history of his dealings with his people in all ages, points us to the indispensable duty of immediate repentance. "Remember from whence thou art fallen, and repent." "Humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God." "Return, thou backsliding Israel, saith the Lord, for I am merciful and will not keep anger forever." "Return unto me and I will return unto you, saith the Lord of hosts."

In view of this season of spiritual declension, and of these affecting exhortations of a merciful God, a solemn duty devolves especially upon those whom he has called to the work of the Gospel ministry. It becomes us seriously to examine whether we who minister at the altar have not approached our God in an unacceptable manner ; whether by our formality and worldliness, by our fear of man, and the want of more unqualified consecration to the solemn duties of our office, we have not contributed largely to produce the evils which we now deplore. And while we thus urge the anxious enquiry, "Lord, is it I?" let us with prayerful solicitude, with souls penitent but yet trustful in Sovereign mercy, diligently strive to be more watchful over the corruption and deceitfulness of our hearts, more vigilant against the seductive influences of the world, and more entirely devoted to the discharge of the great and peculiar duty of our ministry, "to know nothing among our people save Christ and him crucified." We are not guiltless, and we should seek the fulfilment of the precious promise, "he shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the Lord an offering in righteousness."

Let the eldership be also exhorted to contemplate these desolations with penitential grief, and seek, through Divine grace, to attain to a higher standard of personal piety ; and by a diligent and prayerful use of the means of grace ; by giving countenance to the efforts of pastors ; by increased fidelity in the prayer-meetings, in the Sabbath-school ; and by a faithful and affectionate exhortation and entreaty,—let them strive to elevate the tone of piety in the church, and secure the salvation of those who are yet without God, and without hope in the world.

And we would affectionately urge upon all in our churches who have named the name of Christ, that they endeavor to adorn the profession they have made, to regard the vows which rest upon their souls, to breathe more of the spirit of Christ, and walk even as he also walked, to renounce the unholy customs and maxims of an ungodly world, and in all things so to live that the world may have occasion to say concerning them, "they have been with Jesus." In this day of darkness and rebuke, let the friends of the Saviour betake themselves to the Throne of the Heavenly grace, pleading earnestly and importunately, "Spare, Lord, and give not thine heritage to reproach." "Turn us again, oh God of our salvation, and cause thy face to shine upon us, and we shall be saved." And let them give no rest to the God of our salvation, until in reference to our beloved Zion, they see the exhortation obeyed, and the promise fulfilled! "Arise! shine, for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee!"

With a cordial concurrence in the recommendation of the Particular Synods, the Committee submit the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the Friday immediately preceding the second Sabbath in October be solemnly observed as a day of fasting, humiliation and prayer in all the churches, that God may revive his work and refresh his heritage.

Respectfully submitted,

D. KENNEDY, *Chairman*.

Ministers without charge—Rev. Ph. Milledoler, D. D., C. C. Vermeule, D. D., G. Bourns, J. Mulligan, James Buchanan, W. Bates and  
B. V. Collins.  
\*Report for three years.

JUNE, 1845.

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SOUTH CLASSIS OF NEW-YORK.

Ministers without charge—Rev. J. M. Matthews, D. D., Charles Knouse, John Alberts and James E. Ambler.





JUNE, 1845.

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CLASSIS OF BERGEN.

Ministers without charge—Rev. P. S. Williamson, Rev. Wm. V. V. Mabon, Missionary in Buffalo, N. Y.

CLASSIS OF PASSAIC.

Minister without charge—Rev. Z. H. Kuypers.

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CLASSIS OF PARAMUS.

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## SOUTH CLASSIS OF LONG-ISLAND.

Ministers without charge—Rev. Richard D. Van Kleeck, and Isaac P. Labagh, who is suspended from the ministry.

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JUNE, 1845

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NORTH CLASSIS OF LONG-ISLAND.

## CLASSIS OF PHILADELPHIA.

Ministers without charge—Rev. Peter Labagh, Amos Babbitt, T. A. Amerman, John Ludlow, D. D., Provost of the University, Penna.

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Minister without charge—Rev. F. B. Thompson.



CLASSIS OF ILLINOIS.

**CLASSIS OF ALBANY.**

**JUNE, 1845.**

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**Minister without charge—Reuben Porter.**

**\* Report of 1844.**

## CLASSIS OF SCHENECTADY.

Ministers without charge—Rev. J. A. Yates, D. D., Thomas Romeyn, J. V. Vandervolgen, Robert J. Blair, Abm. I. Swila, Stated Clerk.

JUNE, 1845.

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CLASSIS OF RENNELAER.

Ministers without charge—Rev. J. Sittler, D. D., Harry Heermance.

## CLASSIS OF SCHOHARIE.

Ministers without charge--Rev. Paul Weidman, Cornelius Bogardus, James E. Ques, Missionary to Michigan,  
Elihu Doty, Missionary to China.

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## CLASSIS OF ULSTER.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	Census.		Communicants.						Bapt. C. & B. C.			S. Schools.		Post Office Ad- dresses.				
		Number of Fam- ilies.	Total of the Con- gregation.	In communion per last Report.	On Confession.	On Certificate.	Rec'd.	Dismissed.	Suspended.	Died	Total in Commu- nion.	Infants.	Adults.	Number of Cate- chumens.		Number in Bibli- cal Instruction.	Number of Schools.	Number of Scho- lars.	Average Number of Scholars.
Bloomingdale,	J. McFarlane,	108	586	115	2	3					117	17				2			Rosendale.
Caatsbaan,	Henry Ostrander,	100		84	3						90	10							Saugerties.
Clove,	Jas. Lillie,		200				2		1	94	2								High Falls.
Dashville-Falls,	Vacant,																		Dashville Falls.
Esopus,	Abm. Fort,	145	725	298	2		4		4	292	11	1				4			Esopus.
Flatbush,	John Watson,	100	620		6	2			3	185	12	1				3	100		Saugerties.
Guilford,	Wm. Brush,	130	780	78	26		2		2	100	16	3				4	120		Tuthill Town.
Hurley,	J. C. Cruickshank,	100	520	109	2	2	3			110	4	1				1			Hurley.
Kingston,	Vacant,	292	1445	510	3	5	5	2	4	507	13	1				2	200	160	Kingston.
Marbletown,	C. L. Van Dyck, S. C.	200	1200	139	8	4			6	143	11	1				4			Marbletown.
New-Paltz,	J. C. Vandervoort,	200	1175	200	4		4		4	216	10	1							New-Paltz.
Platekill,	M. L. Schenck,	110	450	112	10	3	1			124	24	3				1			Saugerties.
Rosendale,	Jas. McFarlane,	98	508	38	3	4				45	10								Rosendale.
Saugerties,	C. Van Santvoord,	120	700	169	16	4	2	2		185	15	2				1	100	80	Saugerties.
Shokon,	S. Harlow,	80	350	92	4	3	3		1	95	15	1				1			Shokon.
Woodstock,	W. T. Van Doren,	104	611	174	8	3			4	181	12	3				1	25		Woodstock.
Rochester,	C. Wyckoff,	200	1175	161	2	7	1		2	171	38	1				5	195	110	Accord.

Minister without charge—Rev. N. Bogardus.

**JUNE, 1845.**

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**CLASSIS OF ORANGE.**



CLASSIS OF GREENE.

Minutes without charge—Rev. H. I. Simpson, Wm. Knight.

CT ASSISTE ODE CA VTHCA

Minutes without charge—Henry Manderile, A. Hoffman, G. Manderile, J. F. Schenck, R. W. Knight, E. Nevins,

CLASSIS OF WASHINGTON.

Ministers without charge—Rev. J. Birney, J. Parry, A. H. Myers.

JUNE, 1945

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# SUMMARY VIEW OF THE REFORMED PROTESTANT DUTCH CHURCH, FOR 1845.

CLASSES.	Churches.	Minist'rs.	Candidates.	Students.	Number of Fa- milies.	Total of Con- gregations.	Received.		Total of Com- municants.	Baptized		Number of Cate- chumens.	Number in Bib- lical Instruction.	Number of Sab- bath Schools.	Number of Scho- lars.	STATED CLERKS.
							Un Confer- sion.	Un Certifi- cate.		Infants.	Adults.					
New-York,	20	26			1791	6364	120	246	3960	296	90	531	270	23	2128	Rev. N. I. Marselus, D.D.
South Classis of New-York,	7	11			787	3770	76	72	1406	115	14	503	183	7	1035	S. H. Meeker.
New-Brunswick,	17	17			1749	7188	143	92	2636	229	29	749	329	32	910	A. A. Marselus.
Bergen,	10	12			1232	5722	44	51	1409	108	1	597	337	12	945	J. Garretson.
Passaic,	9	7			849	4310	26	8	788	60	1	220	71	16	641	J. A. Staats.
Paramus,	13	11			1558	7167	51	21	1727	147	1	517	73	11	451	C. S. Hageman.
South Classis of Long-Island,	9	9			775	3375	50	41	888	93	1	220	165	16	731	R. O. Currie.
North Classis of Long-Island,	7	7			630	2744	35	16	705	54	6	265	121	11	608	G. I. Garretson.
Philadelphia,	11	13			850	4350	48	33	1344	97	9	323	177	24	1140	J. R. Talmage.
Poughkeepsie,	14	13			1272	5128	58	19	2181	66	9	257	146	17	1016	A. M. Mann.
Illinois,	7	5			142	606	9	11	97	17	2	90	73	6	271	G. G. Sill.
Albany,	16	14			1676	8479	87	114	2594	146	12	427	307	11	925	I. N. Wyckoff, D.D.
Rensselaer,	13	14			1176	6093	34	54	2097	71	2	50	295	18	750	A. N. Kittle.
Ulster,	17	16			2087	11045	101	40	2655	220	19	345	295	29	740	C. L. Van Dyke.
Washington,	11	13			522	2170	16	27	780	27	3	60	155	9	500	J. H. Pitcher.
Montgomery,	21	16			1755	8428	11	44	1063	32	3		16	13	405	D. Van (linda.
Schoharie,	12	10			488	2734	28	15	728	37	4		390	5	150	A. B. Chittenden.
Schenectady,	11	14			1135	5297	56	12	1755	85	6	132	26	26	985	A. I. Swits.
Cayuga,	19	18			968	3626	56	55	1133	60	15	167	95	16	757	B. Bassler.
Greene,	9	9			811	2600	38	24	1175	64	6		28	6	302	W. A. Cornell.
Orange,	16	17			1558	2909	132	08	1699	162	52	332	422	28	1211	J. B. Ten Eyck.
Michigan,	5	3			78	165	3	6	70	8				1	30	D. McNeish.
	274	276	29	22379	104262	1232	1109	32883	2193	217	5795	3653	337	16631		

**ARTICLE VII.***Synodical References.*

The Committee on Synodical Minutes reported, and their report was adopted, and is as follows :

The Committee to whom were referred the Synodical Minutes, respectfully report—That from the pages of the Particular Synods of Albany and New-York we gather the following items, which are commended to the attention of General Synod :

1. From pages 7 and 8 of the Particular Synod of Albany, that the churches of Hudson, Claverack, Mellenville and Hillsdale, now under the care of the Classis of Rensselaer, with their respective pastors, be dismissed, to organize a new Classis, to be called the Classis of Hudson ; and that General Synod be requested to make the necessary arrangements for the complete organization of the said Classis.

And from the Minutes of the Particular Synod of New-York on the same subject, we find the following resolutions :

I. *Resolved*, That this Synod consent that the churches of Redhook, Johnstown, Germantown and Greenport, now under the care of the Classis of Poughkeepsie, together with the churches of Hudson, Claverack, Mellenville and Hillsdale, shall be constituted a distinct Classis, to be called the Classis of Columbia.

II. *Resolved*, That as four of the churches named are under the jurisdiction of a Classis belonging to the Particular Synod of Albany, the action of the General Synod is necessary ; and therefore that General Synod be requested, if the Particular Synod of Albany consent thereto, to make the arrangements necessary to constitute the churches named a distinct Classis, to be known by the name of the Classis of Columbia ; and that the General Synod designate the Particular Synod to which said Classis shall be attached.

2. Also, on page 8th of the Particular Synod of Albany, we find the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That, at their request, the churches of Waterford and

Wynantskill, of the Classis of Washington—the church at the Boght, from the Classis of Schenectady, and the churches of Cohoes, West Troy, and the South Church of West Troy, with their respective pastors, be and are hereby dismissed from their respective Classes ; and that the brethren so dismissed, with an elder from each of the churches dismissed, meet in the church of West Troy on the last Tuesday of May, at 2 P. M., to organize the new Classis, under the name and style of the Classis of Watervliet, and that the Rev. O. H. Gregory preach the sermon on the occasion.

3. Also, on page 7th of the Minutes of the Particular Synod of Albany, we find that Mr. Adam H. Van Vranken, a member of the Reformed Dutch Church of Schenectady, is recommended to General Synod as a suitable person to receive aid from the Funds of the church in his preparation for the Gospel ministry.

4. Also, on page 13th of Particular Synod of Albany, and on page 10th of the Minutes of the Particular Synod of New-York, the resolution :

That General Synod be requested to appoint a day of fasting, humiliation and prayer in the churches, when pastors, officers and people may together humble themselves “between the porch and the altar,” and cry mightily to God, that he would revive his work in our midst, and that he would refresh his languishing heritage.

5. Also, on page 11th of the Minutes of the Particular Synod of New-York, we find the following change :

“The candidate, Robert C. Clark, from serious bodily indisposition, being disqualified for the active duties of the ministry, the Classis have recalled his licensure to preach the Gospel, and directed him to unite himself with one of the churches under their authority as a private member.”

As your Committee have their doubts whether a Classis possess any authority under our constitution thus to recall a licensure, from such a cause, we commend the subject to the attention of General Synod.

RANSFORD WELLS, *Chairman.*

*Resolved*, That so much of the above report as relates to the recommendation of suitable persons to receive aid from the Funds of the Synod, be referred to the Committee on the Professorate.

*Resolved*, That so much of the above report as relates to the formation of a new Classis from parts of the Classes of Rensselaer and Poughkeepsie, be referred to a Special Committee, consisting of the Rev. Herman Vedder, E. S. Porter, and the Elder, John Van Sinderen.

The Committee reported, and their report was accepted, amended, adopted, and is as follows :

The Committee to whom was referred that part of the report of the Committee on Synodical Minutes relating to the formation of two new Classes, beg leave to report—That as the Classes from which the materials have been taken for these organizations were large, and spread over a great extent of country, the measure was doubtless highly expedient. Your Committee would therefore respectfully recommend the adoption of the following resolutions :

1st. *Resolved*, That the action of the Particular Synods in the premises be confirmed.

2d. *Resolved*, That the new Classis denominated by the Particular Synod of New York the Classis of Columbia, and by the Particular Synod of Albany the Classis of Hudson, be called the Classis of Hudson.

3d. *Resolved*, That the Delegates of the churches constituting the former, meet for organization in the city of Hudson, the first Tuesday in July, at 11 o'clock, and that the Rev. John Gosman, D. D., preach the sermon on the occasion.

4th. *Resolved*, That the Classis called the Classis of Watervliet, already organized, be connected with the Particular Synod of Albany, and the Classis of Hudson with the Particular Synod of New-York.

All which is respectfully submitted.

H. VEDDER, *Chairman*.

*Resolved*, That so much of the report on Synodical Minutes as



relates to the appointment of a day of fasting, humiliation and prayer, be referred to the Committee on the State of Religion.

*Resolved*, That so much of the above report as relates to the withdrawing the licensure of Mr. Robert C. Clark by the Classis of Philadelphia, be referred to a Special Committee, consisting of the Rev. J. B. Ten Eyck, James B. Steele, and the Elder, Teunis Van Vechten.

The Committee on Overtures and Judicial Business reported, and their report was adopted, and is as follows :

The Committee on Overtures, to whom were entrusted the request of the Classis of Illinois, and the complaint of a minority of that Classis on account of said request, would report—That the act of the Classis, which is a respectful request for a dispensation of the rule of Synod, requiring the presence of a Deputatus Synodi from another Classis when ministers of other denominations are received, does not come within the constitutional ground for a complaint.

The Committee would therefore propose for the adoption of the Synod the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That the complaint of the minority of the Classis of Illinois be not entertained.

In relation to the request of the Classis of Illinois, the Committee are aware of the difficulty which would attend a compliance with the requisition of the rule of Synod, yet in their case it would be better to surmount the difficulties than to dispense with the rule—and would therefore recommend the resolution :

*Resolved*, That the request of the Classis of Illinois be not granted.

Respectfully submitted.

F. H. VANDERVEER, *Chairman.*

#### ARTICLE VIII.

##### *Synodical Appeals.*

Nothing occurred.

## ARTICLE IX.

*Church Government.*

The delegates from the South Classis of Long Island, agreeably to instruction from their Classis, presented the following extract from the Minutes of said Classis, which was referred to a Special Committee, consisting of the Rev. J. B. Ten Eyck, George H. Fisher, and the Elder, Jacob Lansing.

“ *Resolved*, 'That the delegates to the General Synod be instructed to bring before that body the subject of a change of the constitutional provision respecting classical representation, that it may be so modified that the number of delegates to the General Synod shall be graduated by the number of members of the several Classes.'”

The Committee reported, and their report was adopted, and is as follows :

The Special Committee on the subject of such a modification of the constitutional provision, that the number of delegates to the General Synod be graduated by the number of members of the several Classes, which subject was officially brought before the General Synod by a resolution of the South Classis of Long-Island, certified by the Stated Clerk of the same, would respectfully report—That although in some cases it would seem equitable that larger Classes should be entitled to a larger delegation than smaller Classes, yet these cases are not of frequent occurrence, and there are circumstances in respect of smaller Classes, (*viz.*, such as distance from the usual places of the meeting of the General Synod, and the burdensome nature of the *duty* to be performed by a *few* persons,) which, in their operation, would have a greater tendency than would at first be supposed, to equalize the delegation. Also, that the advantages which might be supposed to result from the proposed modification, are not conceived to be so great as to warrant the course prescribed by the Constitution, Art. 4, Sec. 15.

With these remarks your Committee would present for the consideration of this Synod the following resolution, to wit :

*Resolved*, That at present it is inexpedient for the General Synod to recommend to the respective Classes to take into consideration any modification of the constitution in reference to any graduation of the number of delegates to the General Synod to the number of the members of Classes.

All which is respectfully submitted,

J. B. TEN EYCK, *Chairman*.

An extract from the Minutes of the Classis of Illinois was received, stating that they had received an application from Rev. William I. Fraser, of the Presbyterian Church, to join their body, and requesting a dispensation of the regulation of the Synod relative to the presence of a deputatus at the reception of ministers from other churches, or such other action as General Synod may deem proper, with a view to the action of the Classis in the case, which was referred to the Committee on Overtures and Judicial Business. (See p. 466.)

A complaint, signed by George G. Sill and David Bailey, against the action of the Classis of Illinois in the above case, accompanied with certain documents, was received, all of which were referred to the Committee on Overtures and Judicial Business. (See p. 466.)

The Committee on the action of the Classis of Philadelphia, withdrawing the license of Mr. R. C. Clark to preach the Gospel, (see p. 466,) reported, and their report was accepted, and having been discussed at considerable length, the following preamble and resolution were submitted and adopted :

*Whereas*, It appears from the Minutes of the Particular Synod of New-York, that the Classis of Philadelphia have recalled the license to preach from Robert C. Clark, a candidate under their care ;  
And,

*Whereas*, The Minute on the subject does not present the grounds of the proceedings of Classis,—

*Resolved*, That the Classis of Philadelphia be requested to send up to the next General Synod a full view of the circumstances of this case, and the grounds of their proceedings therein.

*Resolved*, That the following amendment to the Constitution,

Chap. I, Art. I, Sec. 5, be sent down to the several Classes for their approval, and that their decision thereon be sent to the next General Synod, to be added at the close, "which it shall be competent for Classis to recal for good cause."

*Resolved*, That no licentiate or ordained minister, of other denominations than our own, shall be received by the Classes under the direction of this Synod, unless such licentiate or minister has studied three years in a Seminary belonging to a denomination with which this Synod is in correspondence.

*Resolved*, That in case any congregation wishing to settle a licentiate or minister who has not the qualifications contained in the above resolution, that congregation must, through their Classis, ask for a dispensation from this Synod to allow them to accomplish their desire.

*Resolved*, That any Classis receiving and settling a minister not in accordance with the above resolutions, that their act in that instance shall be null and void.

#### ARTICLE X.

##### *Doctrines and Morals.*

Nothing occurred.

#### ARTICLE XI.

##### *Customs and Usages.*

Nothing occurred.

#### ARTICLE XII.

##### *Schools and Christian Education.*

The following report was received from the Board of Education, accompanied with an extract from the Minutes of the Board, relative to the bequest contained in the will of the late Moses Cowan,

and a form of discharge of the executor to said will, for the payment of certain interest to the widow of the said Moses Cowan ; which were read and referred to the Committee on Education.

The Board of Education of the Reformed Dutch Church respectfully report to General Synod—That one of the scholarships, hitherto only accumulating, has become available, as will be seen by the accompanying report of their Treasurer.

The scholarships are now thirteen in number, viz : 1st, The Van Rensselaer ; 2d, Rutgers ; 3d, William Paterson Van Rensselaer ; 4th, Cornell ; 5th, Wyckoff ; 6th, Heyer ; 7th, Margaret Burgess ; 8th, John Clark ; 9th, Isaac L. Kip ; 10th, James Bogart, Jr. ; 11th, Tannika Turk ; 12th, Richard Cadmus ; 13th, Stryker.

The Board are gratified in being able to state that the plan suggested in their report for the year 1843, has been adopted by one of the Classes. Under date of July, 1844, the Board received from the Stated Clerk of the South Classis of Long-Island, a copy of the following Minute of their proceedings :

“ *Whereas*, it appears from the report of the Board of Education to the last General Synod, that they entered upon this year’s labors cumbered with a debt of one thousand and forty-five dollars, which compels them to decline receiving new beneficiaries on their list ;

“ *And whereas*, in the opinion of this Classis, the successful prosecution of the work of beneficiary education is indispensable to furnish the church, through her own institutions, with well educated ministers, and to carry into effect her plans for her extension, Therefore,

“ *Resolved*, That this Classis, in dependence upon God for his blessing, will raise the amount necessary to educate two beneficiaries, who shall be designated by Classis, and be subject to its control.”

The Board are pleased in being able to add that this resolution has been carried out, and that there are now two beneficiaries,

nominated by the South Classis of Long-Island, under the care of the Board.

In the last report of the Board to General Synod will be found a brief statement of a bequest to the Education Funds, by the will of Moses Cowan, late of Greenwich, Washington Co., N. Y., and of the action of the Board under the circumstances. The Board have since received a communication, addressed to Isaac Young, Esq., from the executor of said will, requesting that, as the Board of Education is not a corporate body, a legal paper, authorizing their action, should be executed by General Synod. This request, with the accompanying copy of the Minute on which it is founded, are herewith submitted to General Synod, that they may take such action in the premises as they, in their judgment, shall deem fit.

That General Synod may obtain a complete view of the state of the funds under the direction of the Board of Education, they would present the following statement of their Treasurer :

To the Board of Education of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church—

The Treasurer presents his annual report as follows :

The contributions to the funds of the Board continue to decrease in amount. Notwithstanding the limited number of beneficiaries, it has been impossible to reduce the debt of the Board, which still amounts to eight hundred dollars, borrowed on the notes of the Treasurer, on which interest is paid continually.

The Treasurer has, for the last several years, spread before the Board a table of receipts from churches. He has hoped that from exhibiting the fact that the Board has to struggle under a load of debt, and is obliged to limit to a very small number the objects of its aid, the churches would be aroused to its help. He feels for the honor of the church, that so few of the congregations are found disposed to do anything for this important cause ; that they are content to find their churches not numbered among its benefactors, and

that, as in the present year, only 18 out of more than 240 churches have contributed any thing.

The following condensed view of the Treasurer's account exhibits the amount received from all sources, and the amount expended:

**RECEIPTS.**

Contributions of churches,	\$622 41
Donations,	42 42
Interest on scholarships,	1440 95
Amount refunded by Rev. J. R. Van Arsdale,	10 84
Principal of the Stryker scholarship paid in,	2000 00
Balance on hand at the commencement of the year,	198 69
	<hr/> \$4815 31

**EXPENDITURES.**

Payments to beneficiaries,	\$2141 66
Interest one year on loan of \$300, paid I. Young, Esq.,	21 00
Interest 2 years on loan of \$500, paid P. I. Nevius, Esq., Treasurer of South Church,	60 00
Principal of Stryker scholarship, paid I. Young, Esq.,	2000 00
Balance carried to new account,	92 65
	<hr/> \$4315 31

It will be seen by the foregoing statement that the amount invested for the endowment of the Stryker scholarship, having accumulated to two thousand dollars, has been paid to the Treasurer of the General Synod. The benevolent design of the late Peter Stryker in his bequest to this Board, has thus been more than carried out. A brief recapitulation of this matter is due to the memory of our departed friend, and may furnish a salutary example to others.

By his will, 47 shares in the Farmers' Fire Insurance and Loan Company were devised to the Board for the endowment of a scholarship, to be called the Cornell scholarship, in honor of his near friend. The 47 shares produced, when sold, \$2883 27. Of this amount,

\$1700 were appropriated to endow the Cornell scholarship, and the remainder, with the dividends and interest which had accumulated, was placed at interest by the Treasurer in order to endow another scholarship, on the order of the Board, to be called after the benevolent testator, the Stryker scholarship. When the amount required to endow a scholarship was raised by the Synod to 2000 dollars, three hundred dollars were paid to the Treasurer of Synod to raise the Cornell scholarship to this standard. The remainder of the fund was continued at interest until the present year, when 2000 were paid to the Treasurer of the Synod, completing the endowment of the two scholarships.

Thus in about ten years, during nearly the whole of which time the Board of Education has been receiving and expending the interest of one of these scholarships, the remainder of the fund has, by the accumulation of interest, fully endowed the other.

While the beneficial effect of interest RECEIVED is thus pleasingly exhibited, let it be remembered that this Board, established for a noble purpose, is suffering by the contrary operation of this source, so fruitful for good or evil, by *paying* interest on a debt of 800 dollars, which has existed for nearly three years.

Will not the churches arise to our relief, and enable the Board to pay off this debt in the course of the present year? Ought they not to do this, and much more?

The whole amount of contributions from the 18 churches is only \$622 41, and the amount of donations only \$42 42.

The Treasurer has recorded with much pleasure a sum refunded by a former beneficiary, who is living on a very small salary, but who feels a desire thus to honor the cause.

The following table exhibits the contributions from churches:

*Classis of New-York.*

Collegiate Church,	\$203 45
Church, Broome street,	50 87
	————— \$254 32



*South Classis of New-York.*

Church, Murray street,	63 03
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*Classis of Bergen.*

Church of Schraalenburgh,	7 78
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*South Classis of Long Island.*

1st Church, Brooklyn,	36 64
Church, New Utrecht,	30 00
Church of East New-York,	15 00
"    Flatlands,	32 00
"    New Lotts,	15 50
South Church, Brooklyn,	9 00
Church of Flatbush,	30 00
	<hr/> \$168 14

*Classis of Philadelphia.*

3d Church of Philadelphia,	50 00
"    " Mount Pleasant, Hunterdon Co., N. J.,	4 00

*Classis of Albany.*

North Church, Albany,	40 07
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*Classis of Schenectady.*

Church of Schenectady,	13 04
"    " Niskeuna,	8 25
	<hr/> \$21 29

*Classis of Ulster.*

Church, Plattekill,	\$4 78
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JUNE, 1845.

475

*Classis of Orange.*

Church of Warwarsing,	\$9 00
	<hr/>
	\$622 41

From the following Classes nothing has been received :

New-Brunswick, Passaic, Paramus, Poughkeepsie, Rensselaer, Schoharie, Montgomery, Cayuga, Greene, Washington, Illinois.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN D. KEESE,

*Treasurer Bd. of Ed'n.*

*New-York, 31st May, 1845.*

It appears from this statement that the amount of funds at the disposal of the Board is only \$2116 20, and that they are cumbered with a debt of \$800.

There are at present twenty beneficiaries under their care, one having lately excluded himself from our benefactions by violating the rule of the Synod, which forbids the marriage of students while under the care of the Board of Education.

It is known that the maximum annual amount which is allowed to a beneficiary is \$120. To this must be added the sum of \$40, required as "tuition fees," from those who are pursuing their collegiate course, making the sum requisite for each student \$160.

At this rate of expenditure, it will be seen that the Board are obliged to continue refusing to receive any new beneficiaries until the greater part of those now on the funds shall have finished their course of study, and that then they will be obliged to limit the number of students to thirteen.

To such limitation, however, the Board, taught by long experience, would have no objection, provided they had the power of selecting from a number of applicants those who afforded the greatest promise of usefulness. The church has hitherto educated all who applied for this charity. In this, the Board believe that we have erred. A wiser course would have been to have made a judi-

cious selection. We must not forget that the character of our ministry will very much depend upon the character of our beneficiaries. Had the church always acted under this impression, the Board are persuaded that the actual amount of contributions for this object would have been larger than it now is, and entirely abundant.

The term of service of the following members expire this year, viz : Thomas Dewitt, D. D., James B. Hardenbergh, D. D., Theodore Frelinghuysen.

All which is respectfully submitted,

M. S. HUTTON, *Cor. Sec'y.*

The report of the Treasurer of the Board of Education was submitted and referred to the Committee on Education.

The sixth annual report of the General Synod's Board of the Sabbath School Union was received, read and referred to the Committee on Education.

The Committee on Education reported, and their report was adopted, and is as follows :

The Committee on Education, having examined the papers placed in their hands, beg leave to present the following report to General Synod :

I. On matters pertaining to the Board of Education.

It appears that the widow of Moses B. Cowan has a legal right to the interest accruing annually on his bequest during her life time, and, with a view of carrying out this legal right, it is proposed that General Synod authorize the Trustees of the Corporation to execute the documents necessary in the case.

Your committee recommend the Synod to adopt the resolutions passed by the Board with reference to this bequest.

The Stryker scholarship has become available this year, making now 13 scholarships in all.

There is a sad item of history brought out in the report of the

Board. It is the statement that only 18 churches out of 240 have contributed any thing during the year to the Beneficiary Fund. This fact plainly calls for the action of Synod, in the opinion of your committee.

It appears also that there are 20 beneficiaries under the care of the Board, and that it is encumbered with a debt of \$800. We earnestly urge upon the churches the duty of attending to the annual collection for Education, that this indebtedness may be speedily removed.

The committee most cordially approve of the sentiments expressed by the Board about the necessity of exercising great prudence in the selection of candidates for the Gospel ministry.

That the Synod may see at a glance the resources we possess for the education of young men for the ministry, the committee submit the following view of the funds appropriated for education :

## STATE OF THE FUNDS.

From the Treasurer of Rutgers College, it appears

that the principal of the Van Benschoten Fund is	\$20,250 00
Interest due on this Fund 1st May, 1845,	1,368 70
Balance in his hand,	1,048 91

Sum total of the Van Benschoten Fund,	\$22,667 61
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Also—

The Knox Fund, principal,	\$2,000 00
Interest due 1st May, 1845,	120 00
Balance of interest on hand,	77 11

Sum total of the Knox Fund,	\$2,197 11
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There are 13 scholarships, giving a principal of	\$25,400 00
Bequest of Nicholas Lansing,	600 00
Freeborne, (to accumulate,)	1,085 00

	\$27,085 00
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Collections in churches,	000
Making a capital for ministerial education, of	\$51,951 72

II. On matters pertaining to the report of the Board of the S. S. Union in connection with our church.

It appears that there are 100 schools belonging to 88 churches connected with this Board, four only having been added to it during the past year.

The Depository has been removed to the building in the rear of the North Church, and is now in a highly flourishing condition.

From the Treasurer's report of this Board it appears that the sum of \$1383 41 has been received during the year, and that \$1546 80 have been expended. There are also to be credited various items, amounting to \$1640, and due for sales made at the Depository, \$250.

The Board adverts also to the debt incurred at the commencement of its operations. The committee concur with the Board in hoping for the speedy liquidation of this debt.

Your committee find the following resolution passed by the Board, to which they solicit the attention of the Synod :

*“ Resolved, That the Committee on the Depository be directed to have stereotyped an 18mo. edition of the S. S. and Social Hymn Book, and publish the same as soon as convenient.”*

And also the following preamble and resolution :

*“ Whereas, In the proposed new edition of the S. S. and Social Hymn Book, there will be nine blank pages in the last sheet of the work, therefore*

*Resolved, That the General Synod be respectfully requested to cause to be furnished to the Board, in such way as they shall think proper, a sufficient number of hymns to fill up said nine pages.”*

Your committee fully appreciate the views of the Board in their able and interesting report, but recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

*Resolved, That the whole subject of the Hymn Book be referred*

to a special committee, consisting of Rev. Isaac Ferris, D. D., Thomas De Witt, D. D., Thomas M. Strong, D. D., and the Elders John D. Keese and William Woram, to consider the importance of a new arrangement of our Hymns for social and Sabbath School worship ; and that they report to the next General Synod, with the addition of such new hymns as may make the collection more complete.

Your committee recommend this cause to the fostering care of the churches, urging the necessity of annual collections being taken up for it. We believe that the selection and furnishing of a sound, vigorous and christian literature for our youth is an enterprise of the highest importance, and one in which all our ministers, elders and churches should co-operate.

Nor can we close our report without adverting to the subject of education in general. It is our belief that our young men in college and at the seminary should study the educational movements of the times, so as to be able to give an impetus to the cause wherever, in the Providence of God, they may be settled. It cannot be denied that the church, through her ministers and educated members, is the ordained educator, in all ages, of the whole family of man.

All which is respectfully submitted,

JAMES SCOTT,

*Chairman of Committee on Education.*

The Committee on Nominations having reported, Synod proceeded to fill the places of those in the Board of Managers of the General Synod's Sabbath School Union, whose term of service has expired. On counting the ballots, it appeared that the following were elected, viz : Rev. George H. Fisher, John M. Macauley, John Gosman, D. D., Garrit I. Garretson, James Romeyn, and Messrs. John I. Brower, Charles VanWyck, Leonard Bleecker, Jason H. Bockover, Daniel R. Suydam, James Anderson, and Thomas Earle.

The Committee on Nominations having reported, Synod proceed-

ed to fill the places of those in the Board of Education whose term of service has expired. On counting the ballots, it appeared that the following were chosen, viz : Rev. James B. Hardenbergh, D. D., James Scott, and the Elder, Theodore Frelinghuysen.

### ARTICLE XIII.

#### *Rutgers College.*

The following report was received from Peter Spader, the Treasurer of Rutgers College, which was referred to the Committee on the Professorate :—

To the General Synod of the Reformed Dutch Church :

The following young men have received aid from the Van Benschoten Fund, from 1st April, 1844, to 1st April, 1845, viz. :

E. Vedder,	-	-	-	\$30
W. Galusha,	-	-	-	165
N. Dubois,	-	-	-	165
R. H. Steele,	-	-	-	142
C. Spaulding,	-	-	-	120
W. Taylor,	-	-	-	43
S. D. Scudder,	-	-	-	168
J. E. Whitehead,	-	-	-	22
A. Sloat,	-	-	-	83
J. C. Gulden,	-	-	-	83
W. H. Van Eyck,	-	-	-	20
B. C. Lippencot,	-	-	-	20
W. E. Geer,	-	-	-	60
C. Case,	-	-	-	86

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\$1,207

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Amount of the Van Benschoten Fund, 1st April, 1845, \$20,250 00

Balance in hands of the Treasurer, 1,048 91

Interest due 1st May, 1845, 1,368 70

Amount of the Knox Fund, 1st April, 1845,	2,000 00
Balance in the hands of the Treasurer,	77 11
Interest due 1st May, 1845,	120 00

Respectfully submitted,

P. SPADER, *Treasurer.*

*June 4, 1845.*

The following report of the Board of Superintendents of Rutgers College was received, and referred to the Committee on the Professorate :

The Board of Superintendents of Rutgers College, in making their annual report to the General Synod, would respectfully submit, as a part of it, the following communication, made to them by the President of the College :

“ To the Superintendents of Rutgers College :

“ Nothing has occurred in the internal history of the college since my last report which demands particular notice in this communication. The average number of students has been sustained, and their general deportment and attainments have been satisfactory. Twenty-three young gentlemen were graduated at the last commencement, and a class of sixteen seniors will present themselves at the approaching examination for the Baccalaureat degree to be conferred by the Board of Trustees at their next annual meeting. Of this number, *four* have declared their intention to prosecute theological studies in the seminary at this place.

“ The librarian represents that many of the volumes under his care require rebinding, and that a considerable number of pamphlets, of a valuable and interesting character, are rendered almost useless, and peculiarly liable to loss and injury in their present form. He has requested me to suggest the appropriation by the Synod of a specific sum, to remain in the hands of their treasurer, and to be expended under the direction of the Library Committee in the repairs of binding, and of the cases and locks, as may from time to



time be necessary. No way of meeting these demands has been provided, and the result is, that from term to term the injury to valuable books becomes greater, and the expense ultimately to be incurred, heavier. The due preservation of the library, as well as its enlargement, deserves the anxious attention of the guardians of these institutions.

“In all my former reports, it has been demanded of me by the duties of my station, to represent the deficiencies in our prescribed course of studies in the important subjects of *Biblical Recitations* and the *Evidences of Christianity*. I am aware that my suggestions as to these matters have been most respectfully treated; and that both the Synod and the Board of Trustees, through your representations, have not failed in their exertions to meet the necessities of the case. A reference to the printed report of the proceedings of the Synod at their meeting in June last, (page 371,) will show the action of that body on the subject, and the Trustees at their annual meeting in July also appointed a committee to confer with the Faculty, in the hope that some satisfactory arrangement might be made. No change has, however, resulted from these earnest measures, and the friends of the college have yet to deplore the sad omission of these vital topics in our system of instruction. It is due to my associates in the literary faculty to say, that they deeply regret this state of things, but that the time of each professor is so fully occupied by the duties of his particular department, as to preclude the additional labor of instruction in these branches, and which would be valuable only as it was full and complete. Bible Recitations and the Evidences of Christianity, though not strictly of a professional character, harmonize more naturally and readily with the ordinary studies and tuition of our *clerical* than of our *lay* professors; and in the absence of a regular appointment, it seems to me that these duties could be discharged with less inconvenience and sacrifice by the former than the latter. As the Synod will be at hand readily to confer with the theological faculty, I would respectfully, but earnestly ask one more effort to accomplish so desirable an end. Should

the imposition of additional duty in their case be deemed unwise, a substitution of these branches instead of some now taught by them, or a change in the other departments of instruction, might be advisable. Where all the branches of learning set down in the college system cannot, from any cause, be taught, a *choice* becomes necessary, which in this case, I apprehend, will not be embarrassing. The usefulness of the college, the welfare of society, the highest interests of the students, demand that the conservative and sanctifying influences of *religious instruction* should not be overlooked.

With this single exception, there is nothing in the present condition or future prospects of the college that is not gratifying and full of promise. To say that it needs no longer the fostering care of the church, or the unremitted exertions of its friends, would be neither wise nor true. Much yet remains to be done, both internally and externally, to render the institutions, and the grounds around them, suitable to the enlarged demands of modern education, or the prevailing taste of the times. It is sufficiently obvious, from the history of every successful literary seminary in this country or abroad, that a prudent expenditure of money in the tasteful arrangement and decoration of the college premises, is not among the least important offices of those who are charged with the duties of disbursement. The shrine of knowledge must stand in pleasant places, or the youthful pilgrim will be apt to pass by on the other side of the way, to seek for more shady and agreeable retreats.

“Twenty years have now elapsed since the resuscitation of the college under its present name and organization. During the whole of that time, as indeed in all its former history, it has maintained a proud position among the most approved, if not the most patronized, institutions of the country. The evidences of its fidelity to the cause of religion, and of the excellence of its system of instruction, are beginning to be exhibited in every department of social life, no less than in the movements, foreign and domestic, of our own church. The seeds which have been sown here are just beginning to mature, and will hereafter, day by day, ripen for the harvest ;—and it can-

not but be gratifying to the early and constant friends of the college to observe that now, in the fullness of time, her *Alumni* are taking rank among the most distinguished and influential of the land. The fruits of the past give token of what, under happy auspices, may be accomplished in the future, and encourage the hope that the united action of the Synod and the Board of Trustees will be prompt to meet every just and reasonable demand.

“ A. BRUYN HASBROUCK, *President.*

“ *Rutgers College, May 31st, 1845.*”

The Board of Superintendents unite their testimony to that of the President of the college as to the necessity of immediate and decisive interference to arrest future injuries to the library of the Theological Seminary and College. Valuable sets of books have been broken; several books have been entirely lost, or have perished through neglect to have them rebound at a proper time; and many valuable pamphlets are missing. Should Synod see fit to appropriate a small sum of money, to be expended annually for the preservation of the library, as suggested by the President of the college in his report, it is believed that, if properly applied, it would have a salutary influence in preventing the further loss and destruction of books.

The Board of Superintendents very respectfully suggest to General Synod the appointment of a committee to confer with the Faculty of the Theological Seminary and College, or with the librarian, to ascertain what is the present state of the library, what sets of books are broken, what books are missing, and what require rebinding, and what are the laws and rules which regulate the use of the library.

The deficiency in the course of instruction in the college, in the omission of Biblical Recitations, and of recitations on the Evidences of Christianity, is greatly to be regretted. There is reason, however, to believe that the deficiency as to the Evidences of Christianity will be removed by an arrangement between the Professor of

Didactic Theology and the President of the college. It is greatly to be desired that the other deficiency may be speedily removed.

ABM. VAN NEST,  
SAMUEL B. HOW,  
J. J. JANEWAY,  
JAS. B. HARDENBERGH.

#### ARTICLE XIV.

##### *Professorate.*

Synod proceeded to fill the places of those in the Board of Superintendents of the Theological Seminary whose term of service has expired. Nominations were received from the Classes of Philadelphia, Montgomery, Passaic, Cayuga, Schenectady, Albany, and New-Brunswick, which were confirmed.

An appointment was made by the Synod for the new Classis of Watervliet.

The following are the persons chosen to fill the vacancies in the Board of Superintendents, viz: Rev. George W. Bethune, D. D., James Murphy, D. D., John A. Staats, Gustavus Abeel, D. D., John A. Yates, D. D., James A. H. Cornell, Abraham Messler, D. D., and Oscar H. Gregory.

The Committee on the Professorate reported, and their report was adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee on the Professorate beg leave to submit the following as their report on the several subjects referred to them, viz:

I. *Report of the Board of Direction.*—The report of the Board of Direction, with the accompanying documents, presents a full view of the financial interests of the General Synod. It appears that the several Funds are in a flourishing state, and yielding the sum required for the expenses of the Theological Professorships. The whole are managed in the same careful and faithful manner which

has distinguished the operations of the Board in past years. As the summary view given by the Board of the several sources of revenue will be published in the Minutes of Synod, it is deemed not necessary to repeat it here.

The Board have brought again to the notice of Synod the matter of the bequest of Mrs. Hornbeck. The committee have given this subject a careful examination, and they recommend that the Board of Direction be clothed with full power to arrange and settle it as they may deem best for the interests of the Synod. This course will remove any difficulty which might otherwise impede the final adjustment, from the specification of any particular mode by a body which meets once a year. The following resolution is accordingly recommended :

*Resolved*, That the Board of Direction be and hereby are clothed with full power to settle the interests of this Synod and our benevolent institutions in the bequest of the late Mrs. Hornbeck.

Among the documents submitted is a list of unpaid subscriptions, which were made for the endowment of the Third Professorship. A portion of these, owing to the altered circumstances of the subscribers, will not for some time, if ever, be paid, while the principal part may be relied on. It is a matter of so much moment that the Board of Direction should have under their management all the means on which the Synod relies, that your Committee earnestly reiterate the recommendation that the Board use their utmost influence to induce the subscribers to pay the principal of their subscriptions.

In the list of investments made, it appears that some are reported which can never be collected. As the presentation of these, year after year, is calculated to give a wrong impression of the amount of available funds, your committee recommend that all such as cannot be recovered be omitted from the list submitted to Synod.

2. *Van Benschoten and Miss Knox Bequests*.—It appears from the statement of the Treasurer of Rutgers College, that eight young men are receiving full appropriations from these sources, while the

tuition fees of several others are paid from the former. The interest in the hands of the Treasurer, and that now due, warrant the addition of two more beneficiaries. Your committee having had the case of Mr. Adam Van Vranken, of the Classis of Schenectady, referred to them, recommend that he receive aid from the Van Benschoten Fund, and that the Trustees of Rutgers College add such other person as may be recommended by the Board of Education.

3. *Archives and Minutes of Synod.*—It is gratifying to learn that, through the liberality of the consistory of the Church of New-York, which has so often been shown heretofore, a suitable and permanent place has been obtained for the important papers, &c., of the General Synod, in the fire-proof building recently erected in the rear of the North Church, N. Y. In availing himself of the kindness of the consistory, the Stated Clerk has shown his well known taste and love of order in the erection of fixtures, which do credit to the Synod, and deserve their thanks.

A large number of surplus copies of the Minutes of Synod having accumulated in the course of years, the Stated Clerk desires the Synod to fix the price at which they may be sold to persons seeking to make out complete sets. The committee recommend the following:

*Resolved,* That half the usual price be charged for the surplus copies of the Minutes of Synod.

The committee deem it desirable, as our communication with the Church of Holland has been favorably renewed, that they should possess all the means which may enable them to trace our history, and become acquainted with our general state. As particularly favorable to this, it is thought that full sets of the Acts and Proceedings of Synod should be put into their hands. The following is recommended, in order to carry out this idea.

*Resolved,* That the Stated Clerk of General Synod be and hereby is authorized to make up and have bound, at the expense of Synod, two sets of the Minutes of General Synod, and forward one copy to

the Stated Clerk of the Classis of Amsterdam, and the other to the Stated Clerk of the General Synod of the Church of Holland.

4. *Theological Commencement.*—The committee have enquired carefully into the expediency of continuing the Theological Commencement, and confess they have been not a little at a loss to decide what was right in the circumstances. Frequent and contradictory legislation about the same thing is unquestionably an evil ; yet we can all perceive there may be cases in which, on a single experiment, we may be satisfied of the expediency of recalling what at the first seemed to promise much. This is the case in the matter before us. The adoption of the Theological Commencement grew out of a desire to give greater interest to a most important era in the graduate's course—the completion of his term of study—and it was supposed would rally new friends around the Theological Seminary, such effects accompanying the arrangement in similar institutions. But one commencement has been held ; and as the attendance on that occasion was composed of town's people almost entirely—mostly the younger class—and all of them already friends of the institution, it is deemed sufficient to show what may be expected in future. And greater force is given to this conclusion by the fact that the week ensuing being filled up with a series of public exercises, will necessarily be all absorbing, and perhaps all we could expect the public to sustain.

It appears, from the accounts of the Theological Professors and the students, that the duty imposed on the young men is decidedly burdensome, and is particularly felt more as the exercises are altogether different from their regular and required productions, and are to be prepared without any relaxation of ordinary duties, (such as the Senior Class in college enjoy,) and when pressed with the prospect of two most important examinations. In view of all these circumstances, your committee have changed the opinion formerly held, and unanimously agreed to recommend the following :

*Resolved*, That the Theological Commencement be discontinued.

5. *Dispensations.*—Two applications for dispensations have been

referred to the committee, viz : that of J. A. Davenport, and of Benjamin F. Romain. The papers in these cases have been carefully examined, and enquiries have been made of different persons for additional information.

The proper course to be pursued in such cases is almost always decided on with difficulty. Our sympathies are awakened for the party applying, while the known caution of the church in relaxing her claims of full theological preparation, checks their indulgence. The committee have felt embarrassed in reference to the cases before them ; but in view of all the circumstances of each, they submit the following .

The committee applaud the conclusion of Mr. Davenport, and trust he will persevere in his devotion to the foreign field ; and they are happy to see that he forms a just estimate of the difficulty of a perfect preparation for the work to be done. It is in view of the importance of possessing the highest qualifications that the committee deem it far preferable for him to take a full and careful course, and therefore recommend that the Synod withhold a dispensation ; and they firmly believe that he will himself approve this after he may have been actually in contact with heathen mind. In the mean time, if he be able to do something in addition to the regular studies of the institution, the committee would recommend him to give his attention to a medical course, and to acquire the elements of the language of the people among whom he is to labor.

Mr. Romain has been much retarded in his preparation by continued infirmity of body, and at the same time has been doing what his circumstances allowed in the way of general theological preparation, and your committee are happy to see the desire for the ministry which he manifests.

What may be his actual attainments cannot be ascertained without particular examination ; and as this can only be made with advantage before the Board of Superintendents of the Theological Seminary, it is recommended that this matter be referred to the Board, and that Mr. Romain present himself for examination with the junior



class in the seminary at the next meeting, and if his examination be sustained, said Board allow him to pursue his studies with the next middle class.

6. *Rutgers College*.—As the report of the Superintendents of the College is also published in the Minutes of Synod, it is not deemed necessary to give any summary of its contents, and we would simply record our gratification with the favorable account of the internal state of the institution it presents.

It is earnestly hoped that the arrangement now in progress for securing instruction in the Evidences of Christianity may be successful, and that no senior class may hereafter graduate without being thoroughly acquainted with the grounds of our common faith.

Several matters connected with the college edifice are presented, to which it is thought proper to call the particular attention of Synod. By the construction of the railroad communication through New-Brunswick, our institution is brought to the border of one of the greatest thoroughfares in our country, and we cannot but realize in consequence the importance of making its whole appearance attractive to the many thousands who, in the course of the year, fix their gaze on it. The building, the grounds around, and the means of access, should be kept in such repair as to make a good impression on all, and the interior should be made in every respect worthy of exhibition to visitors. These things do not indeed constitute the real excellence of a collegiate institution, though they are important auxiliaries to its success. As the building and grounds are the property of Synod, it devolves on the Synod to meet the expenses which may be necessary to accomplish this object.

With these views, the committee have visited, in company with the President of the college and Mr. Peter Spader, and minutely inspected the whole ; and they are constrained to say that the condition in which they found things was any thing but gratifying.

The street in front, and the fences around the grounds require immediate repairs. The cases in the library should be repainted, and the locks should be renewed. The floor of the chapel is lite-

rally worn out. The blinds at the windows, for their preservation, should be colored anew ; and one of the professors speaks of a serious leak in the roof of his part of the building. From five hundred to a thousand dollars are needed to be expended in repairs and refitting during the coming vacation. It is believed that this would be money well laid out, and would be richly returned in the form of increased patronage. Indeed, if it were practicable, it is desirable that the chapel should be made particularly attractive. At no great expense it might be colored with kalsomine, in imitation of fine fresco painting, and be made worthy of the institution.

The committee think that liberality here is true economy ; that by a cheerful outlay we shall better secure our common object. The Board of Trustees have an important part to bear in this matter. The philosophical and chemical apparatus should be much enlarged. These departments, well sustained never fail to reward all efforts for their encouragement. Several hundred dollars are needed at once in the department of natural philosophy, and not less than one hundred dollars a year for ten years should be expended for apparatus. Why should not every effort be put forth to make this institution, together with our seminary, the rallying point of the church ? Why not the domestic feeling of our christian family circle be called out to cherish it ?—Make it attractive ; pursue a liberal policy ; let there be no controversy about jurisdiction ; let the church feel that here is a home for her sons, and these desirable results will follow.

The books in the library now amount to 5000 volumes, and among them is a large number of very rare and most valuable works. The condition in which many of these are found, makes it necessary to incur some expense in rebinding them, otherwise they will be to intent lost.

Your committee were surprised to find no printed catalogue. Could one be published and scattered among our churches, there is no doubt that many donations of valuable books would be made.

The following resolutions are recommended :

*Resolved*, That Messrs. Abm. Van Nest and Peter Spader be a committee to make such repairs in the street, fences around the college grounds, in the library and interior of the edifice as may, in their judgment, be necessary.

*Resolved*, That the Rev. Dr. Van Vranken and President Hasbrouck be requested to act as a committee in behalf of Synod in procuring the rebinding of the books of the library which may need it, and the binding of pamphlets, in a substantial style; and also to secure the preparation and printing of a catalogue of the books, for the use of the church, and that the Board of Direction be and hereby are empowered to audit and pay the expense of the same.

*Resolved*, That it is recommended and earnestly urged on all the churches to take a collection to meet the contingent expenses of Synod, on some Sabbath during the month of October next, and that the several Classes give their particular attention to this matter.

*Resolved*, That each student be charged one dollar per year for the use of the library.

7. *Board of Superintendents*.—The annual report of the Board presents a cheering view of the state of the Seminary. There is nothing, however, calling for special presentation to the Synod by this committee.

All which is respectfully submitted, by order of the Committee on the Professorate,  
ISAAC FERRIS, *Chairman*.

#### ARTICLE XV.

##### *Students in Theology.*

Nothing occurred.

#### ARTICLE XVI.

##### *Church Visitations.*

Nothing occurred.

**ARTICLE XVII.***Prevailing Sins.*

Nothing occurred.

**ARTICLE XVIII.***Missions.*

The thirteenth annual report of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church was received and read, and referred to the Committee on Missions.

The report of the Treasurer of the Board of Foreign Missions was submitted and referred to the Committee on Missions.

The fourteenth annual report of the Board of Domestic Missions of the General Synod was received, read and referred to the Committee on Missions.

The Treasurer's report of the Board of Domestic Missions was presented, and referred to the Committee on Missions.

The annual Missionary Sermon before the General Synod was preached by the Rev. Gustavus Abeel, D. D., in the First Reformed Dutch Church, on the evening of the fifth day of the Session, from *Revelations XII. 11*, "And they overcame Him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony ; and they loved not their lives unto the death."

The Committee on Missions reported, and their report was adopted, and is as follows :

The Committee on Missions would respectfully submit the following report :—From a review of the operations of our missionaries in the foreign field, and of the dispensations towards them of a wise and merciful though inscrutable Providence, there is cause for

gratitude and joy for the blessings bestowed, and the measure of success which has attended their labors, and at the same time cause for sorrow at the bereavements which have been suffered, and the losses which the enterprise itself has sustained.

In accordance with the directions of the Prudential Committee of the American Board, and the views of the brethren themselves, Messrs. Doty and Pohlman, with their families, left Pontianak in April, 1844, with the view of locating in Amoy, China, and of making that vast country the permanent field of their future labors. They arrived safely at the place of their destination, and commenced at once to grapple with the difficulties which lay in the way of the prosecution of their object. The language of the country was to be mastered before they could preach to the multitudes of this populous region, in their own tongue, the unsearchable riches of the Gospel. At the last accounts they were making steady and satisfactory progress in their work, and were rejoicing in the hope of soon being able to preach Christ to the Chinese in their own language.

The remaining members of our missionary family, consisting of brethren Thompson and Steele, Mr. and Mrs. Youngblood, are at Borneo, where they propose permanently to remain and labor. They are prosecuting their work in this interesting field with diligence—leaning, by faith and prayer, upon the potent arm of Him who controls the minds and hearts of the heathen, moulding and moving them as He lists, and who can make the wilderness and solitary place” glad for the sake of His servants. They have His promises to encourage, and His aid to strengthen, though no results of special interest touching the ingathering of souls into the fold of the Good Shepherd have occurred during the past year to gladden their hearts. Let the prayers of the churches go up with earnest importunity to the “everlasting hills,” that the foundation upon which these brethren are employed be laid broad and strong. Then may we soon expect to see the fair proportions of the edifice itself rise, and secure in its position and strength, stand immoveable through all succeeding generations.

Since the last annual report a change for the better has occurred in the relations and prospects of the brethren at Borneo. That report alluded to "annoyances experienced" and difficulties thrown in the way of the missionaries, by the local authorities of the Island. These annoyances and difficulties, it is a source of rejoicing to say, are now in part if not entirely removed. The memorial addressed by the brethren to the Governor-general, has effected the purpose for which it was sent. Directions have been given to the local agent, by whom the evils complained of were occasioned, "to give all facilities and protection to the missionaries in their work." This has produced the happiest effects. The once suspicious and hostile officer has become "entirely friendly." The mission is firmly established; and the brethren have no ground of fear that, in the regular prosecution of their missionary work, they shall be interrupted and embarrassed by the officers of government. This result is certainly most gratifying. It must gladden the heart of every well-wisher of the cause of missions. Those who have deeply sympathized with the brethren in the trials arising from this cause, and mingled tears with their prayers as they surveyed a barrier to the prosecution of their work, so unexpected and at the same time so formidable, may now sympathize with them in feelings of a different character—may weep with them at the goodness of Him before whom mountains sink and difficulties disappear, and pray with increasing earnestness, because they have in this interposition the evidence and the pledge that the God of pity will hear and answer prayer. What desponding christian can *now* refuse to pray?

The Rev. Elbert Nevius and wife, who were on their way to this country at the presentation of the last report, have since arrived. Mr. Nevius has received a commission from the Board to visit the churches under the care of this Synod, and "enlist them more effectually in the cause of foreign missions." He has discharged the duties of his agency with fidelity and zeal, and his efforts have been attended with very encouraging success.

Dr. Scudder is still laboring acceptably and efficiently in different

parts of our country. To the children of the church particularly his labors have been exceedingly valuable, in kindling the spirit of missions in the youthful bosom, and conveying to the mind of childhood impressions of heathen abominations and heathen destitution, not to be soon obliterated—the results of which, we doubt not, coming years will pleasantly develope. He purposes to return to the missionary field during the coming year, whither his eldest son, an ordained missionary, has lately preceded him. A second son, soon to be licensed to preach the Gospel, expects to accompany his father on his return.

These are among the encouraging circumstances and aspects of this department of our missionary operations. We have reason, certainly, to be grateful to the Father of Mercies for all that He has done for us in sustaining and forwarding the missionary enterprize. Have we, however, expected much, and does it appear that we have realized comparatively little in respect to the rapid extension of our missionary fields, the multiplication of laborers, and the abundance and richness of the sheaves gathered with shouts of joy to Him who sends the dew, and the soft showers, and the fruitful seasons? Have the winds that wafted to Borneo, and to China, and to Hindostan the story of Jesus and the Resurrection, failed to bring back, in answer to our longing desires, tidings of idolatry rebuked, error and superstition discomfited, temples reared to Jehovah Jesus, filled with anxious and devout worshippers, and songs of praise to Him through whom alone is redemption, uttered by the lips of thousands reclaimed from the millions of surrounding idolaters? Have we failed to hear all this? It is true. Mourn we may, but the christian can never despair. The time of the glorious ingathering is not yet. Immanuel, most mighty, is girding his sword upon his thigh. He is making bare his arm. He is preparing his way. We hail with joy every token of the rapid development of his gracious purposes and plans. Our eyes may yet see the results for which our hands now labor and our hearts pray. As we see obstacles gradually yielding in our particular sphere of missionary labor, the sight

should add fuel to the flame of our missionary zeal, and incite us to put forth stronger energies in behalf of the dying multitudes of our race.

The brethren in Borneo, in their communications, repeat their urgent anxiety and desire that their mission be speedily strengthened by a physician and printer from this country. The Prudential Committee are solicitous to engage the services of both. And all that remains to complete the arrangement is the want of suitable individuals, who, impelled by the love of the Master and the calls of duty, shall be willing to respond to the appeal, and enroll themselves among our little missionary band. Shall the brethren appeal to the churches in vain? Shall they be left longer to toil on under discouragements that may be, in part at least, alleviated, and in the face of obstacles that may be partially removed? This were to show that the numerous families of our church feel little sympathy indeed with the beloved missionaries whom she has pledged herself to sustain, and that the spirit of missions does not yet so pervade and animate and move us as a church, as to lead us to regard the slightest call of duty as the authoritative command of God, to be promptly, and at whatever sacrifice, obeyed.

It remains to notice a subject in which the church feels a deep and painful interest, viz: the bereavements the brethren have suffered, and the loss the mission has sustained.

Mrs. Allen, formerly Miss Condit, and sister of Mrs. Nevius, who devoted herself several years since to the cause, and embarked with the first missionary band that went forth from the bosom of our church, was called to rest from her earthly labors June 11th, 1844. Mr. Doty was afflicted in the death of a son, after his arrival at Amoy. Mr. Thompson has again been sorely tried in the removal by death of a valued wife, which melancholy event took place on the 5th of December, 1844—previously to which two of his children were stricken down in death by Him who beholds the sparrows when they fall to the ground. The brethren thus called to mourn under such bereavements, need, and we believe they will receive,



the sympathies and prayers of all the churches. Let us bear them up, in these as well as in former and approaching trials, in our intercessions with our Heavenly Father, who chastens not to wound, and smites not to destroy or injure.

Our mission abroad has been still farther weakened by the return to this country of the Rev. David Abeel, D. D., a step which his extremely feeble and decaying health indispensably required. Although somewhat revived since his arrival here, there is no prospect of his ever entering again, as a laborer, the field which he loved, and which he so long and so diligently cultivated. Had he been permitted to occupy it for a longer period, the happiest results might have been expected from his intelligence, experience, zeal, and entire consecration to the missionary service. The brethren who remain there sincerely feel the want of his counsels and presence, and mourn over the loss of so valuable a co-adjutor. Thus the Lord works mysteriously, but wisely, as we are assured, and it becomes us, though failing to comprehend Him, to acquiesce in the perfect propriety of His decisions. The Lord of the harvest, who sends forth laborers into the harvest, can recall them when he no longer requires their services, or when he wishes to translate them to those "sweet fields" which need no cultivation forever, there to serve him in a different and a nobler ministry. May the everlasting arms of love be around this devoted missionary in his declining days, and may the closing period of his life be as calm and peaceful as its course and progress have been exemplary and useful.

The receipts into the treasury during the past year amount to the sum of \$10,997 95, being an increase of \$2,519 77 over those of last year, and little upwards of \$200 more than the receipts of 1843. There is still cause to reiterate the appeal so often, so earnestly, and must we add, so unavailingly made on former occasions to the churches and the brethren who officiate in them, to exert themselves to sustain with greater liberality this noble branch of christian charity. Many of our churches send no stated yearly contributions to the treasury, or if any, so scanty as to swell scarcely at

all the general stream of our benevolence. Some content themselves with sending simply the meagre gleanings of their monthly concerts, whereas were it a principle of duty in every church to make to the Board, at least once a year, a special contribution, the treasury would be in a state to meet all the exigencies of our brethren abroad, without being dependent upon the liberality of the American Board to cover its deficiencies.

*Domestic Missions.*—From the interesting reports of the Secretaries of our Domestic Missionary Society, the committee are pleased to learn that this important branch of religious enterprise has during the past year been sustained and prosecuted with vigor. The church appears to be arising more and more to the real importance of occupying the home field with suitable laborers. She is determined to sustain those whose efforts are directed towards spreading the truth as it is in Jesus over the regions of the “mighty west,” and of thus counteracting the insidious but powerful attempts of Romanism, and the malign influence of other errors, to control the mind, and presently, if unresisted, to wield the destinies of that interesting portion of our Republic. The Board, in carrying into effect the aims and wishes of the church they represent, have performed their part with sound discrimination and commendable industry and zeal.

As it is important that the churches should know from year to year the precise objects in whose behalf their aid is solicited, the committee submit the following detail :

During the past year, the Board have extended aid and voted appropriations to forty churches, and five missionary stations, as follows :

The church of Manayunk, in *Pennsylvania*. In *New-Jersey*, New-Durham, Middletown Village, Fairfield, Little-Falls, Stonehouse Plains and Clintonville. In *New-York City*, German Evangelical, Bloomingdale and Houston street. In other parts of the State, Roxbury, Sandbeach, Cicero, Cohoes, Canastota, Gorham or Reed’s Corners, Courtlandtown, Shoken, West-Farms, Mohawk, German Flats, Frankfort, 2d Berne, Unionville, Arcadia, Caroline,

Buffalo, Fort Miller, Tyre, Jackson, Kiskatom, Ghent, Athens, Easton, Woodstock, Clove, Glenham, Mount Morris, Cato and Lysander.

The Missionary stations aided are the following: Flushing, Town of Neversink, Sullivan Co., Brooklyn, Troy, Blenheim,—all in the State of New-York. Of these, two, viz., Troy and Brooklyn, have been discontinued; the missionaries, Rev. Mr. Wells and Dr. Winklemann, having entered respectively upon other fields of labor.

The attendance upon religious ordinances in these churches has been generally good, though all complain of the want of spiritual influences, of coldness, worldliness, and but few conversions to God. An exception to this sad representation is found in the church at Grahamsville, which has been favored with a season of refreshing from the presence of the Lord. At its communion in April last, 37 souls were added to it on confession of their faith, and others were enquiring the way to Zion. This result is particularly happy from the fact that this church has been but lately organized, and has now the prospect of permanent establishment. It has sought no aid from the Board:

Of the above churches that have been aided by the funds of the Board, but one, the church of Caroline, has failed to renew its application for farther aid. The whole amount of appropriations for the eastern department, for the year, is

\$4,735 00

The drafts issued and the appropriations vacated, amount, for the same period, to

\$2,305 00

In the western department of our Domestic Missions, there are the following churches: In *Illinois*—Fairview, Brunswick, Vanderveer and Pekin; in *Wisconsin*—Madison and Sun Prairie, Caledonia, Prairieville and Beaverdam—the ministers are Rev. A. D. Wilson, G. G. Sill, A. Dubois Williamson, J. N. Shultz and E. Slingerland; In *Michigan*—Grand Rapids, Centreville, Constantine, Allegan, Ridgeway and Bedford—ministers, Rev. A. Bennet, A. B. Taylor, J. G. Tarbell. D. McNeish. Rev. J. Dewitt, who labored there for a part of the year, has returned and taken charge of a missionary church in the eastern department of the field.

The whole amount of appropriations for the western department,  
for the year, is \$2,013 00

The drafts issued for the same time, \$2,058 00

From most of the churches encouraging accounts are received. The attendance upon religious ordinances is for the most part good and increasing. The preaching of the Word has, in some cases, been owned as the "power of God, and wisdom of God, unto salvation." And though no special interest in religion has been witnessed during the year, no copious outpouring of the Spirit from on High, no large ingathering of souls into the good Shepherd's fold, the steady attention that has been paid to religious ordinances, has encouraged the hearts of the missionaries to perseverance in their good work.

The committee notice with great gratification, that in the Classis of Illinois alone, the appropriations voted by the Board this year at the recommendation of Classis themselves, amount to \$340 less than the former year. This is certainly highly creditable to the churches thus nobly exerting themselves for their own support. It is a favorable augury of a success that shall enable them ere long to dispense altogether with the aid of the Board, and become in their turn sources of benefit to others. We could commend the example of these churches, hardly yet emerging from their infant state, to the attention of some of our older churches, who, with far greater resources at their command to support the Gospel, have applied year after year for half a century for the funds of the Board, and to all appearance intend to do so for half a century to come. It is high time that those churches which have the ability to support themselves, but fail to exert it, should fail also to find themselves longer bolstered up in their inactivity by the misapplied though well-meant charity of the Board.

The committee notice with pleasure the application of the Classis of Illinois for a missionary, to labor, in ecclesiastical connection with them, among the destitute German population of that state. The individual and his field of labor have been selected and designated.

The Board, to whom the matter was referred by the Classis, approved the action of the Classis in the premises, and resolved to give the missionary, Rev. Mr. Gumbell, a regular commission to labor among this interesting population as soon as certain preliminary steps had been taken. It is probable that he will soon enter upon his labors under the care of the Board.

In connection with this subject, the importance of sending the Gospel to the destitute German population of our Western States, and particularly of Pennsylvania, has forced itself upon the attention of the committee. In reference to this numerous and important class of our citizens, it may most emphatically be said, "the harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few." The question has arisen, whether it is not the duty of the Dutch Church to do something for the moral and spiritual elevation of this class, to adopt some plan whereby aid may be extended to these destitute thousands of our land? The representations of the delegate to this Synod from the German Reformed Church, agreeing with the knowledge derived from other sources, show the promising nature of this wide field, the extreme need of missionary labor, and the actual paucity of those who have gone up to occupy and cultivate it. The invitation has been sounded in the ears of our church, to send forth our young men, that they may labor with their brethren in giving the Gospel to this population. The relations which our church sustains to the German Reformed Church, are of the most fraternal and pleasing character. And the bonds which now unite us, will, it is to be hoped, bind us still more closely and firmly together. Their destitution is greater than ours—their wants more urgent and imperative. In addition to the suggestions which have formerly been made, and the inducements held out, to our young men to go and labor in the churches of that denomination, subject to their control, and sustained by their enterprise and liberality, it is worthy of being considered whether the interests of evangelical religion may not be and would not be promoted by appropriations from this church, at the discretion of our Missionary Board, *through* the German Re-

formed Church, for the accomplishment of this object—appropriations made without any direct prospect of denominational advancement, but simply for the advancement of a pure christianity amongst brethren whom we love, in whose wants we deeply sympathize, and who hold, in common with us, that system of truth which the Heidelberg Catechism so distinctly conveys. The proposition is novel, and may at present be unacceptable. It is, however, worthy of being pondered, and for this purpose it is advanced. A correspondence at least might be opened with the Domestic Missionary Boards of the two churches, with the design of comparing views upon this subject. A resolution, embodying the sentiment of the committee touching this matter, will be appended to the report.

In considering the condition and prospects of our missionary stations in the west, the want in some of them of suitable houses of worship, has struck the committee as being a very serious obstacle to their growth and permanent establishment, and one which it becomes the Board, as far as practicable, to aid them in removing. In some of these stations, small and sometimes inconvenient places of meeting—the best, indeed, which the ability of the congregations could command—have been procured. They were designed simply for temporary use, until increasing numbers and strength should enable the congregations to erect commodious temples of worship. This increase of strength has failed in some cases to be realized as soon as it was hoped, and, constrained to remain and worship where poor and insufficient accommodation was afforded, they have had the mortification to see another denomination, possessed, perhaps, of greater enterprise, or able to command resources from abroad, step in, build a church, gather into it the surrounding population, and thus occupy a field which, from priority of occupation, was their own. A few hundred dollars appropriated, say by the Board, had enabled them, in connection with their own means, to build such an edifice as their circumstances required, and then the field had remained theirs. Experience has shown that the first church upon the ground has usually the fairest prospect of success. This re-

mark applies particularly to those places where churches have not yet been built, and in which, from their position and rapid increase, one must soon be located to meet the wants of the growing population. And if a church of our name be organized at any of these points, it is of great importance that a house of worship be reared at the earliest practicable period. The committee would therefore suggest the propriety either of giving power to the Board to make such appropriations toward this object as in their judgment they may deem proper, upon application by the weak church made through a Classis,—or they would have a direct appeal made to the churches in behalf of this object, the avails of which to be placed in the hands of the Board and by them appropriated. The committee believe that a little aid in this way, judiciously extended, would often give an impulse to the efforts of an infant congregation, causing them to push forward and accomplish an enterprise which, but for this aid, had not been undertaken.

The committee have only to add that the action of the Board, touching the sending out of the two secretaries to explore the West, &c., has been weighed with that deliberation which the importance of the subject demands. The result is, that they have felt constrained to come to a conclusion adverse to that of the Board, in regard to the expediency or importance of despatching at this time a commission to the West, for the object contemplated in the resolution of the Board. It is of the last importance that the affairs of the Board should be administered with the most rigid economy, and that no expenses should be incurred except those which are unavoidable, or at least clearly necessary. The churches by whose contributions the Board are enabled to carry forward their operations with vigor, expect this; and an injurious influence must be exerted upon the amount and steadiness of these contributions by the bare suspicion that expenses are incurred which might be avoided. The committee indeed highly approve of the plan of a thorough exploration being made of the "West," that the important points where churches might be and ought to be located may be known; and

they appreciate the importance of all needed information in this matter being in the possession of the Board. But it appears to the committee that this end can be gained as well if not better by a commission composed of intelligent ministers residing in the region proposed to be visited. The brethren laboring there are better acquainted with localities suitable for organizing churches. They are more familiar with the manners and habits of the people, with the routes which it is necessary to pursue from place to place, than those residing in the East. And the Board can be put in as full possession of every branch of information that they deem necessary, by having the results of these investigations communicated to them as though they were to visit the places personally. The expense attending a commission of this character would be vastly less than by the plan proposed by the Board. If it be urged that this visit on the part of the commission proposed is necessary in order to enable the Board to make appropriations understandingly and justly, the committee conceive that the same objection exists to making appropriations in the eastern department. The churches aided are not personally inspected by the Board, appropriations being made through the recommendations of Classes; and a recommendation from a Western Classis should be received as confidently and acted on as promptly as from any other. These considerations induce the committee to give a decided preference to the plan now suggested, and they would recommend its adoption to Synod. If, however, the Synod deem this reasoning inconclusive, and still think a commission from the East necessary, the committee would farther urge, that they can see no special propriety in making that commission consist of two. *One* of the Secretaries can accomplish the work as well as two, or a dozen, and especially if he be united in his labors with a minister at the West. To send forth two from here seems to be an increase of expense without a corresponding benefit.

In conclusion, let it be more deeply impressed upon the churches that their responsibilities to sustain these noble charities, are be-



coming heavier in proportion as duty becomes clearer and light is diffused, to sustain them by their cheerful and increasing contributions—by the fervency of their supplications—by their faith, patience, hope, zeal, perseverance, expanding desires, and untiring efforts. Much is expected of us by the Master of the vineyard. We may no longer sleep as we once slept, or put forth faint and sickly efforts as we once did, or be aroused to the duty of going up and possessing the land, only by dint of importunate and reiterated appeals to our love to God and benevolence to man. No. The church has assumed a higher position, and is controlled by more exalted sentiments. The words, “Arise, shine, for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is near upon thee,” is true at least in respect to the Zion of the Lord. The blaze of light that shines upon her discloses to every member of her communion the duty of aiding to carry out the terms of the great commission, “Go ye into all the world,” &c., and leaves him without the excuse of ignorance as to what the Lord demands. Why is it, then, that Zion languishes, and we are forced to shed bitter tears over her desolations? Why is the accomplishment of the promise deferred, “So shall they fear the name of the Lord from the West, and his glory from the rising of the sun?” Is not the true reason found in our pride and worldliness, in our want of more conformity to the spirit of the Gospel, and nearer assimilation to Him who was holy, harmless, undefiled, and separate from sinners? Is it not because of the failure of the church to profit by the light she has received, and to come up with undivided and prevailing energy to the help of the Lord against the mighty? Let us deplore our short comings and delinquencies—let us mourn over the low state of religion at home, and sigh and long for showers of grace to refresh and revive us in our sterility. Let the prayer go continually up from the heart of the whole church, that Zion may arise and stretch abroad the curtains of her habitation. Let her, in view of her wants and exigencies, lie prostrate before Him who controls the destinies of all worlds—and as sure as He has promised that joy shall succeed mourning, so surely shall

reviving religious prosperity, both at home and abroad, cause the garment of praise to take the place of the spirit of heaviness.

The Committee would submit to Synod the following resolutions :

*Resolved*, That the churches under our care be earnestly appealed to, to sustain with still greater liberality this important charity, and to enable the Board to carry out the plans of Synod for the advancement of the interests of the church.

*Resolved*, (Pursuant to the recommendation of the Board of Missions,) That it is expedient that a commission be sent to the West, to explore and examine the same as missionary ground.

*Resolved*, That such commission consist of one member from the East, and one now located in the West, and that said commission report to the Board of Missions every locality which can or ought to be occupied by this church as a suitable situation for the establishment of a Dutch Church, the reasons for selecting such site, the number of inhabitants in such locality, and the probable number of persons or families which would immediately or soon connect themselves with such church, and generally all such information as will enable the Board of Missions to act understandingly in every matter connected with such new establishment.

*Resolved*, That this commission be continued for four months, and that the Board of Missions have power to extend it farther if they shall deem it to be necessary, and also that they arrange with the commissioners, the compensation suitable for their services.

All which is respectfully submitted,

C. VAN SANTVOORD, *Chairman*.

Synod proceeded to appoint the commissioners referred to in the last resolution of the above report. The Rev. Thomas De Witt, D. D., Duncan Kennedy, and the Elder, Teunis Van Vechten, were appointed a committee to nominate double the number of persons from whom to choose the same. The committee having reported, the election took place. On counting the ballots, it appeared that the following persons were chosen, viz : Rev. Isaac Ferris, D. D.,

and the Elder, George Young, *Primarii*; and Rev. Henry Heermance and Asa Bennett, *Secundi*.

The Committee on Nominations having reported, Synod proceeded to fill the places of those in the Board of Foreign Missions whose term of service has expired. On counting the ballots, it appeared that the following were chosen, viz: Rev. James B. Hardenbergh, D. D., Thomas M. Strong, D. D., William H. Van Doren, and Messrs. John Skillman and Isaac Morley.

The Rev. Garrit I. Garretson was elected for one year, in the place of Rev. Isaac S. Demund, who has resigned his seat.

The Committee on Nominations having reported, Synod proceeded to fill the places of those in the Board of Domestic Missions of the General Synod, whose term of service has expired. On counting the ballots, it appeared that the following were elected, viz: Rev. Thomas De Witt, D. D., John Knox, D. D., Abraham Messler, D. D., and Messrs. William B. Crosby, Thomas Lippincott, John S. Woodward, Walter Bicker, Stephen Van Rensselaer, Bauman Low, and Dr. Garrit Van Doren.

The Committee on Nominations having reported double the number of persons from whom to elect an individual to preach the annual Missionary Sermon, the Synod proceeded to the election, when the Rev. John Gosman, D. D., was chosen *Primarius*, and the Rev. Robert P. Lee, *Secundus*.

#### ARTICLE XIX.

##### *Widows' Fund.*

The Committee on the Widows' Fund reported, and the report was adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee on the Widows' Fund respectfully report:

The Board of Corporation has presented to General Synod an ac-

count of the funds of the institution, together with a list of clerical subscribers. The principal of the fund has increased to ten thousand dollars, which justifies a distribution of income to applicants, and the Board has already given notice for applicants to come and receive their annuities.

The Board of Corporation suggests to General Synod to adopt a rule, fixing the time and manner of distributing the income of the institution, and recommend the 1st of January in each year. The committee are not aware of the reasons which led the Board to select that season of the year, which appears to be attended with inconveniencies to the applicants. The committee recommend the adoption of the following rule :

*Resolved*, That in the distribution of income, the Board give notice for two months, in the Christian Intelligencer, for applicants to come in, on or before the 1st May and first of November, in each year, and that on the 1st of May and first of November in each year, distribution shall be made of all income which has accrued and been received to all applicants who have then duly applied.

On the recommendation of the Board of Direction of the Corporation,

*Resolved*, That the money refunded to subscribers be taken from the current income of the institution.

The Board also states the propriety and necessity of allowing its Treasurer a moderate compensation for managing and disbursing the funds of this institution.

It is well known to this Synod that the Treasurer of the Board is already transacting a large amount of business for this body for a very small compensation, and the committee recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That the Treasurer of the Board be allowed for his services to this institution, the sum of one hundred and fifty dollars per annum.

The Board furthermore state that, upon taking the best legal advice, it is not necessary to obtain a separate act of incorporation for

this institution ; and the committee recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That the resolution of the last Synod, requesting the Board to apply to the Legislature of the State of New-York for a separate act of incorporation, be and hereby is rescinded.

It is now eight years since the principles of this benevolent institution were matured and established, and ministers became members by their first yearly payment. The Board, in every annual report, has reiterated their entire confidence in the principles and benevolent results of this foundation ; and in every report the Board has expressed regret and mortification that so few ministers and churches, and individuals, have become interested in the Relief Fund. Every committee of Synod, for eight years, have pronounced this institution worthy the confidence of the ministers and churches, and have made recommendations to this effect. General Synod has constantly requested annual collections from all the churches—has directed Classes to appoint classical agents—has appointed special committees—has requested the Board to create a special agency—and has done other acts to cherish this benevolent institution ; and still the ministers and churches generally neglect the interests of this Society. It appears from the Treasurer's account that only seven churches out of more than 250 have taken up collections to this fund during the past year, which manifests an indifference to the cause and recommendations of Synod truly humbling and mortifying, and suggest the propriety of either ceasing to give recommendations, or adopting measures to render them more effectual ; and the committee recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That the different Classes be directed to have a Lemma called " Benevolent Institutions," and that at every annual meeting of the Classes, each minister and elder shall be interrogated whether they have taken up the several collections recommended by General Synod, and make a record of the same.

From an examination of the list of members interested in this fund, it appears that only 51 have ever become subscribers to the

fund by making one payment ; only 18 have continued their subscriptions up to 1844. Every year subscribers are withdrawing their previous payments, and the present number of paying members is a little over 20. These facts require no comment ; but they plainly indicate that the ministers of our churches are slow to embrace relief raised up, in the providence of God, for disabled ministers, their widows and children ; and the committee recommend the adoption of the following resolutions :

*Resolved*, That, although subscribers have the privilege of withdrawing their subscriptions, confidence is weakened in the institution when withdrawments are made without imperious necessity.

*Resolved*, That all the ministers of the churches be urged to become interested in this fund, as members.

For the encouragement of those who are the present subscribers, now that the fund has reached ten thousand dollars, the committee would state that the distribution to applicants will be nearly the same whether the number of members is 20 or 200. There are at present five incumbents on the fund. Suppose there are 20 subscribers, \$400 ; interest on \$10,000, \$600—which makes \$1000 to be distributed to five applicants.

The committee find 25 names on the list of members who have never made any payment. These ministers, with others, gave in their names at the meeting of Synod, 1837, to become members of the institution, by making payment by the 1st of June, 1838. Those only became members who made payments during the year ; 25 abandoned their intention, and have never become members, and their names should not be retained on the list ; and the committee recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That the names of those ministers now on the list of members of the Relief Fund, who have made no payments, be erased.

Upon examination of the principles of the Relief Fund, it appears that the maximum of annuity to applicants is specified in relation to those who have made 1, 3 and 5 payments, but no sum is specified

relative to those who have made 2 or 4 payments. The committee recommend for adoption the following rule :

*Resolved*, That the maximum annuity to an applicant who has made two annual payments shall be \$100 ; and the maximum to an applicant who has made 4 annual payments, shall be \$175. '

*Resolved*, That all the churches be requested to take up a collection during the year for the benefit of the Relief Fund.

*Resolved*, That the Board of Direction of the Corporation be instructed to publish, as an Appendix to the Minutes of the General Synod, the plan, principles, rules and by-laws of this benevolent institution, as they now exist ; together with the state of the funds, the number of present members, and the number of applicants ; and also an appeal to ministers and churches.

All which is respectfully submitted,

J. B. STEELE, *Chairman*.

*Resolved*, That the Board of Direction of the Corporation be requested to prepare a suitable certificate to be given to those who subscribe to the Relief Fund.

*Resolved*, That the Elders Teunis Van Vechten, Jacob Lansing and the Rev. Isaac Ferris, D. D., be a committee to confer with the Board of Direction of the Corporation in relation to the Widows' Fund.

*Resolved*, That the Board of Direction of the Corporation be and hereby are directed to make an immediate distribution of the avails of the Widows' Fund, now in their hands, in equitable proportions among the applicants.

## ARTICLE XX.

### *Particularia.*

*Resolved*, That the Chairman of the Committee on Missions, and the Chairman of the Committee on Education, be a committee to make arrangements to hold a public meeting in behalf of the benevo-

lent operations of the Synod on the evening of the sixth day of the session.

The committee reported, and their report was adopted, and the meeting was held accordingly.

The communication containing the bequest of the Rev. Elias Van Benschoten was read.

Two books, one entitled "Common places of Christian Religion, gathered by Wolfangus Musculus," printed in black-letter in the year 1563, and the other, a "Dissertation on the Dragon, Beast and False Prophet of the Apocalypse, by J. E. Clarke," were presented to the Synod as the gift of the Rev. A. A. Marselus—whereupon it was

*Resolved*, That the thanks of the General Synod be returned to the Rev. A. A. Marselus for his valuable gift, and that the books presented by him be deposited in the library of the Theological Seminary.

Eighty copies of a Sermon entitled "The importance of cherishing domestic feeling in our church," by the Rev. Abraham Messler, D. D., were presented to the Synod, and distributed among the members.

*Resolved*, That the thanks of the Synod be given to the Rev. Dr. Messler for his present.

The committee appointed to prepare a memorial to the President of the United States and both Houses of Congress on the subject of chaplains in the public service, (p. 391,) reported, and their report was accepted, and is as follows:

The committee appointed by the last General Synod to prepare and transmit a memorial to the President and Congress of the United States, on the subject of chaplains in the army and navy, respectfully report—That they prepared a memorial on the subject, and placed it in the hands of the Hon. Mr. Dix, of the Senate, and Hon. Mr. Maclay, of the House of Representatives, which was by them



laid before the President of the United States and before the Houses of Congress.

THOMAS DE WITT, *Chairman*.

*Resolved*, That fifty dollars be added to the yearly salary of the Stated Clerk of this Synod.

The Rev. Wm. J. R. Taylor, Edwin Vedder, and the Elder, Alexander Chalmers, were appointed a Committee of Canvass, who collected the ballots cast at the several elections held during the session of the Synod, and reported accordingly.

#### ARTICLE XXI.

##### *Benevolent and Religious Institutions.*

The Rev. Mr. Spaulding, the Corresponding Secretary of the American Seaman's Friends Society, at his request, addressed the Synod on the subject of the operations of that Society. Whereupon it was

*Resolved*, That the cause of the American Seaman's Friends Society be recommended to the patronage of the churches.

It having been announced that the Rev. H. H. Herschell, of London, who has visited this country at the request of the American Society for meliorating the condition of the Jews, would be in this city, and be happy to address the Synod in relation to the present state and prospects of the Jews, on the third day of the session, it was

*Resolved*, That the Synod will hear the Rev. Mr. Herschell on the above subject, in the First Reformed Dutch Church, in the evening of the third day of the session.

The Rev. Mr. Herschell addressed the Synod on the state and prospects of the Jews at the above time and place. Whereupon it was

*Resolved*, That the statements presented by the Rev. Mr. Herschell be referred to a special committee, consisting of the Rev. Isaac Ferris, D. D., and John Proudfit, D. D.

The committee reported, and their report was adopted, and is as follows :

The committee to whom were referred the statements of the Rev. Mr. Herschell, of London, before the Synod, in relation to the state and prospects of the Jews, respectfully report—That many considerations conspire to attract to the cause of God's ancient people the fervent sympathy of our church, her earnest prayers, and her cheerful efforts and contributions.

The Republic of Holland was among the first powers of Europe to extend protection and political rights to the Jewish race. The illustrious pensionary of Holland, De Witt, visited London in company with an eminent Jew, in order to exert his influence with the Protector, Cromwell, in their behalf ; and this interposition resulted in the grant of important political privileges to the Jews in Great Britain. The Jews retain to this day a grateful remembrance of the sympathy and protection thus extended to them in the hour of their adversity, and Amsterdam bears among them the title of "Jerusalem of the West."

Great and peculiar, also, are the promises made to those who befriend the people, who are especially "the portion of the Lord, and the lot of His inheritance." "Blessed is he that blesseth thee," is a promise which has lost nothing of its virtue by the lapse of ages. "Pray for the peace of Jerusalem. They shall prosper that love thee." We fervently desire that our church, in all her interests and institutions, may share the blessings promised to those who "bring the sons of God from afar," and may escape the judgments predicted against those who are "not grieved for the afflictions of Joseph."

Your committee recommend the following resolutions :

1. *Resolved*, That the Synod have listened with deep interest to the statements of Mr. Herschell, and cordially rejoice in the evidence they afford, that Israel has begun to "turn unto the Lord," and that "the veil" has, according to the promise, been in some measure "taken away from their hearts," and that from all the

signs of the times we are permitted to infer that the promised day of Zion's redemption and glory has begun to dawn.

2. *Resolved*, That the Synod recommends to the confidence and co-operation of our churches, the American Society for meliorating the condition of the Jews, as worthy of a liberal share in their contributions.

All which is respectfully submitted,

J. PROUDFIT, *Chairman*.

*Resolved*, That the churches be recommended to take up a collection in behalf of the American Colonization Society, on the 4th of July, or some Sabbath near that time.

#### ARTICLE XXII.

##### *Pastoral Letter.*

Nothing occurred.

#### ARTICLE XXIII.

##### *Synodical Archives.*

The following communication was received from the Stated Clerk, and referred to the Committee on the Professorate :

The undersigned would respectfully report—That in accordance with the authority granted to him by the resolution of the General Synod, passed in June, 1841, he has procured a suitable case in which to keep the Synodical Archives. With the permission of the consistory of the Church of New-York, he has had this case put up in one of the rooms of the new consistory building in the rear of the North Dutch Church. The several MSS. volumes of the Minutes of Synod, the various documents and papers, together with the surplus copies of the printed Minutes of the General Synod for numerous years past, have all been deposited in this case, and regularly filed

and arranged. The Archives of the Synod are now placed in a fire-proof building, where they may be preserved in safety.

As application is frequently made for sets of the Minutes of General Synod, the undersigned would respectfully ask of Synod to fix the rates or conditions on which copies of the surplus Minutes may be disposed of.

THOS. M. STRNOG, *Stated Clerk.*

#### ARTICLE XXIV.

##### *Accounts.*

The door-keeper's bill, amounting to \$14 76, was presented, and referred to the Committee on Accounts.

The Committee on Accounts reported, and their report was adopted, and is as follows :

The Committee on Accounts respectfully report—That nothing has been referred to them during the session requiring their attention, but the door-keeper's bill, amounting to \$14 76, which they recommend ordered to be paid.

STAATS VAN SANTVOORD, *Chairman.*

#### ARTICLE XXV.

##### *Resumption and Close.*

*Resolved*, That the Stated Clerk publish one thousand copies of the Minutes of this Synod, duly authenticated, and that he distribute among the Classes the number of copies directed by them.

*Resolved, unanimously*, That this Synod presents its thanks to the minister and consistory of this church and of the Second Reformed Dutch Church, for the use of their respective churches during the sessions of Synod, and also to the various families in this city who have with so much kindness extended their attentions and hospitality to the members of this Synod.

Agreeably to the standing rule of Synod, the roll was called at the close of the session, when it appeared that the Elders Charles Henry and Abraham Truax, were absent without permission.

The Minutes were read and approved.

#### ARTICLE XXVI.

##### *Adjournment.*

Synod adjourned to meet at the city of Albany, in the First Reformed Dutch Church, on the first Wednesday in June, 1846, at 10 o'clock A. M., and was closed with singing the 124th Hymn of the second Book, and prayer by the President.

M. W. DWIGHT, *President.*

J. B. TEN EYCK, *Adseessor.*

GEO. H. FISHER,  
C. VAN SANTVOORD, } *Clerks.*

Official copy from the original minutes.

THOS. M. STRONG, *Stated Clerk.*

## APPENDIX.

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Translation of a letter received from the Classis of Amsterdam :

AMSTERDAM, October, 1844.

To the Committee of the Synod of the Reformed Dutch Church in North America.

*Reverend and dearly beloved brethren in our Lord Jesus Christ—*

At the last annual session of our Classis on the last Wednesday in June of this year, the letter addressed to them by you in the name of the General Synod of the Reformed Dutch Church in North America, dated the ninth of March last, was placed on their table. The Classis were gratified with the letter, and directed us to prepare an answer.

First above all, we would express the delightful impression which your correspondence has produced in us and in the members of the Classis. Your letters bear testimony of the continued and lively acknowledgment of the services which our predecessors extended to your ancestors more than two hundred years since, and which they renewed from time to time, until the circumstances which transpired in the year 1771 ended them. This cessation of direct connection did not, however, prevent continued feelings of affection to the Netherlands Reformed Church in general, and our Classis in particular, among you prompting a cordial esteem for, and remembrance of us. The consequence of this is, that the year before last, on the presence here of Mr. Brodhead, we were brought into a nearer correspondence with you, and an opportunity occurred to aid you in the prosecution of an important undertaking, the preparation of a history of the origin and progress of the Reformed Dutch Church

in North America. For the successful prosecution and happy completion of this work, commenced by Rev. Thomas De Witt, we heartily supplicate the special direction and rich blessing of the God of Grace.

Important events have transpired in the period which has elapsed since your church was established in greater independence. These have exerted an influence on our Netherlands Reformed Church, both for her benefit and for her injury. In consequence of the revolution in 1795, our church ceased to be the ruling church, and over other church organization favored with exclusive privileges. Especially was this the case when Holland was incorporated with the French empire. Our church then wanted nearly altogether those guards which were necessary for her continued existence. At the critical revolution in 1813, there was, therefore, a thorough necessity that there should be formed an entire new organization of church government, of such a character as should best comport with the union of the seven Provinces as a kingdom. From that time there has been an annual General Synod, in the place of the former Provincial Synods, which have been succeeded by established provincial judicatories (*Kerk Cestemren*). The different Classes have each a defined organization, by a president, assessor and clerk, and composed, at most, of four ministers and one elder, to whom the direction and management of matters are entrusted, and to whom the consistories of the different churches are subordinated. At the same time the members of the Classis are divided into different circles or rings, (*ringen*,) through which they have the opportunity to hold brotherly conference and intercourse with each other, in relation to their official duties, and the interests of their congregations.

Remarkable have been the advances made in the first half of this century, especially in our fatherland, in the knowledge of the languages, biblical interpretation, mode of sermonizing, and the clearer and more evangelical representation of the doctrines and duties of our faith. A natural consequence of this has been, that although fundamental doctrines expressed in our confession remain the same,

for the truth is surely unchangeable, nevertheless less use is at present made of the terms (*terminologie*,) and many illustrations, which, in former times, were deemed valuable. But Jesus Christ and him crucified and glorified remains the only basis of our preaching. The churches, and their ministers, direct the eye of faith to Him alone as the only mediator and intercessor with the Father. In His faithful care for them, and for all those who sincerely honor Him, they find their only comfort and perfect security. In following his example and instructions, consists their unfading glory. We hope to be saved through grace alone, by faith which worketh by love.

We have, however, reason to lament, that, on one side, the civil revolutions which have occurred have taken away in their course much of that pure morality and godliness which, in former times, characterized our forefathers, and left in their place an increasing dissoluteness and less attachment to religious ordinances. On the other hand, there are a number acting rashly, and without consideration have inclined to separation, and promoted the same, so that in several places separate churches have been formed, and are acknowledged by the government. And also, finally, in these last times, Jesuitism has exercised its deceitful arts among us, and threatened Protestantism with her fiercest attacks. Amidst all, our faith remains firm, that the truth shall prevail, and in the Lord's time it will brightly manifest its influence. May God aid us and our brethren, and also you and your churches, that we may be "steadfast and immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord," and prepare us and our churches for that union never impaired and disturbed, enjoyed eternally with Him in that better Fatherland.

Many things must take place, brethren, before the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord—many things before the church shall be so cleansed that the Redeemer shall present it before his Father without spot.

The efforts employed by you for the spread of the kingdom of our Lord among the heathen, have met with many hindrances, difficulties and opposition, as has also been experienced by our Neth-



erlands Missionary Society. But we should not, amid these, cherish dejection. The Lord will, in his own time, level every mountain and fill every valley. Let us do what faith and duty place before us. Surely the Lord will not fail in the fulfilment of his promises.

We thank you, brethren, that you have thus furnished to us the opportunity to preserve alive our relationship to you, and to renew and confirm our bond of union in the faith. We beseech you that this brotherly affection and love may abide ; and may the God of peace and all grace so bind you and us together in faith, hope and love, that we may stand in one mind and spirit together, striving for the faith of the Gospel.

With these feelings, and with prayer for God's best blessings in Christ Jesus on your persons, ministries and churches, we subscribe ourselves, with true esteem and brotherly affection,

Your brethren in Christ Jesus,

THE CLASSIS OF AMSTERDAM.

In their name,

A. H. TER HOEVEN, *Prases.*

JS. PRINS, *Scriber.*





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